

APPLIED SCIENCE READING ROOM

THE *Country* GUIDE

In This Issue . . .

- What If Drought Comes?
 - Politics and Farm Policies
 - Hybrid Corn Ups Profits
-
- Styles for School Days

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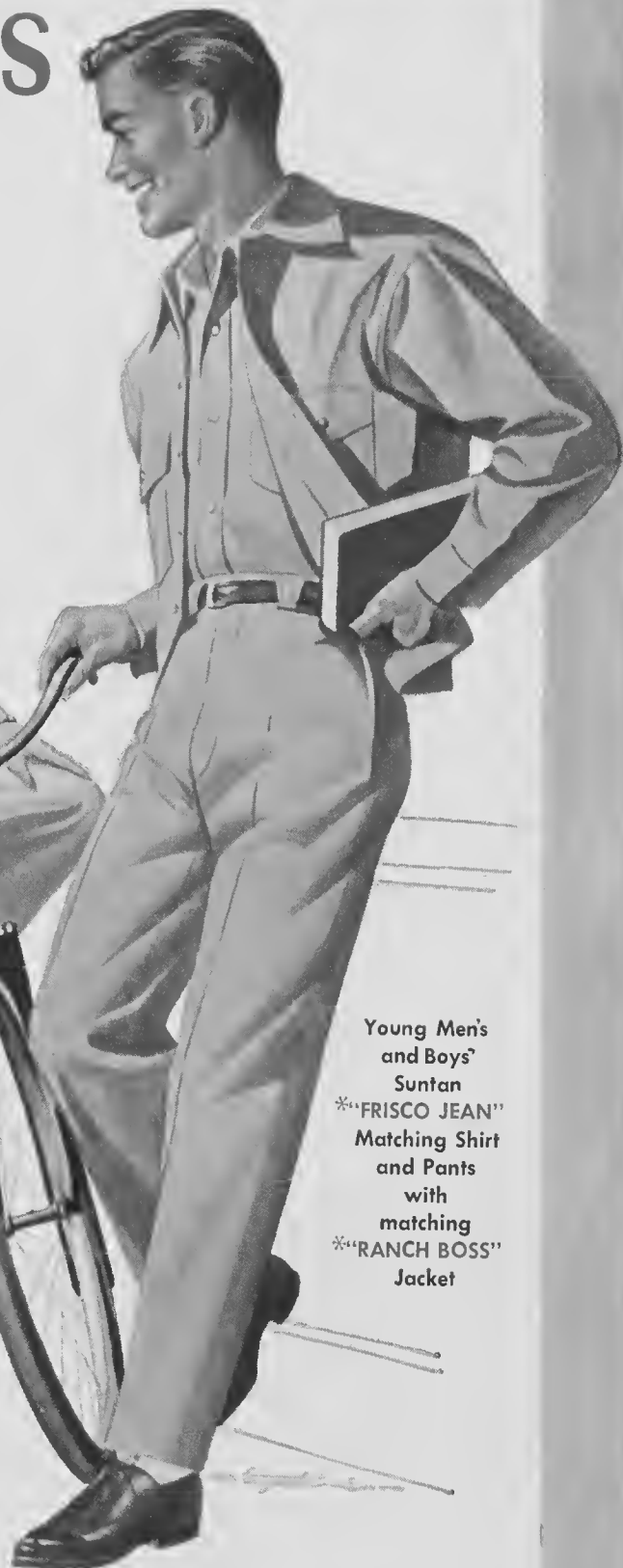
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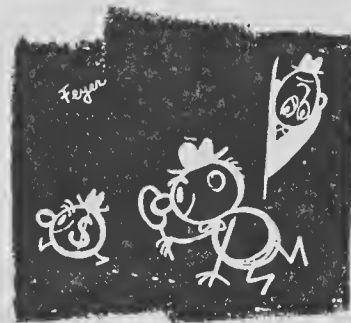


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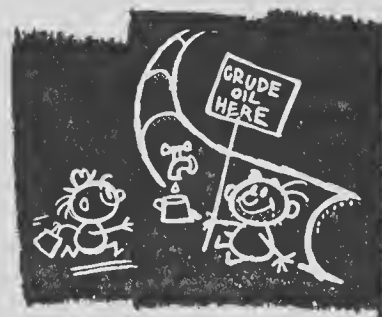
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IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED



[Don Smith photo]

In This Issue

THE *Country* GUIDE

AUGUST, 1957

CANADA'S NATIONAL FARM MONTHLY

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COVER: Jim Rose has brought together two pretty high-class subjects for our cover this month. The Hereford is obviously the visitor and if he doesn't exactly belong, he does lend color, beauty and interest to the scene.

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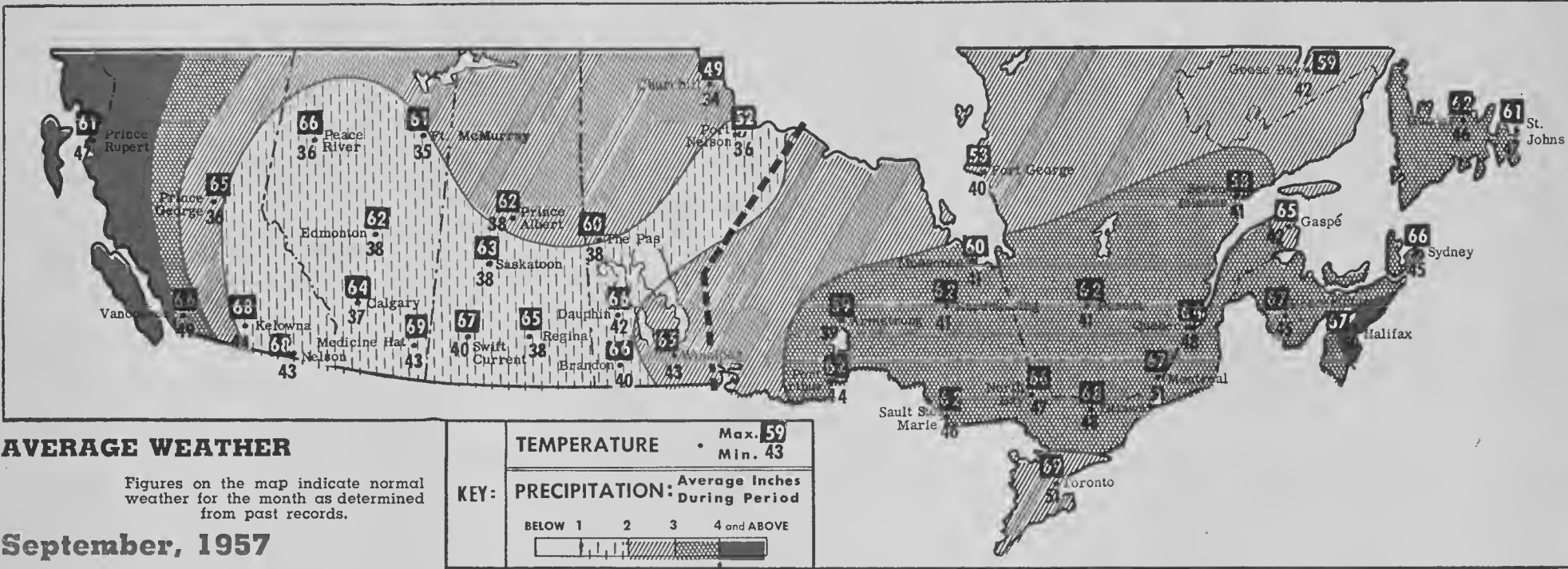
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(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast.
It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but
not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)

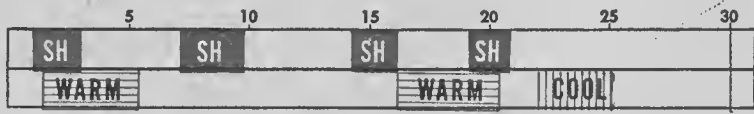


Alberta

The month of September in Alberta will be characterized by brief sporadic showers occurring on several occasions. The total amounts of precipitation will fall somewhat short of the normal, however, because none of the shower periods appear to be important enough to produce very significant rainfall. Temperatures will be generally warmer than usual. The beginning of fall will show a definite trend toward an Indian Summer type inter-

val, as temperature averages over most of the province prove to be between two and four degrees warmer than normal. Even though the month is expected to turn out warmer than normal, you will have to watch for cooler temperatures during the latter part of September. The first near, or slightly below, freezing temperatures will occur during the coolest period noted below. Brisk mornings will be followed however with beautiful days typical of the month. V

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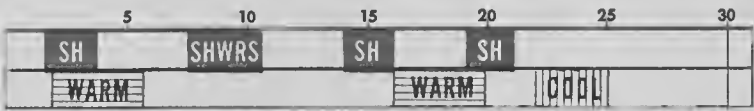


Saskatchewan

Weather will be drier than usual. There will be a few brief periods when showers will occur, but no real storms. Temperatures will average warmer than normal throughout much of the month, making the prelude to fall and winter very enjoyable from the standpoint of comfort. Another important point is that the month will be excellent, for the most part, in getting the outside work completed that must be done before there is any

appreciable bad weather to fight. Any precipitation periods will be rather brief, so interruptions caused by the light storminess will also be of short duration. Here, too, there will be the first chance of the fall for lower temperatures to occur, and through the central portions, in particular, you should expect temperatures to reach a little below the freezing mark. The southern portions will see near freezing temperatures at least once during the latter part of the month. V

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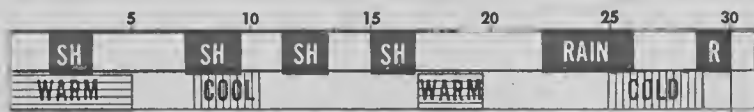


Manitoba

The most important storm during the month, which is expected to occur around the 25th, will go a long way toward bringing most of the area up to normal in the way of precipitation. One other period during which there could be an important storm will be the showers occurring around the 10th to the 15th. The remainder of the shower intervals will be minor in nature. The month as a whole will be a little wetter than normal over the

entire province. Temperatures will average out a little above normal, too, so the month should be a good one. Plan on doing inside work during the most important stormy intervals, and completing outside work through the remainder of the month. You probably won't need your anti-freeze during September, but the cold period in the last week will start you thinking of such precautions. Eighty-degree readings will still be common the first half of the month. V

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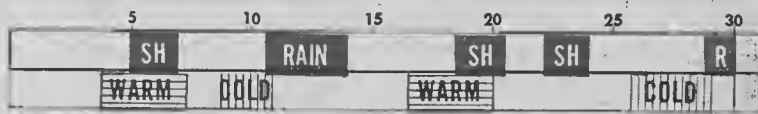


Ontario

Generally wetter than usual. That is how this month will go down in history. Nothing very spectacular will happen—it is just that storminess will be frequent and heavy enough to produce precipitation amounts in excess of long-term normals over most of the region. Look to the southwest for your most important storm. It will reach you somewhere around the 20th and be moving northeast, coming up from the United States. In addition to

being a wet month, it will also be cool. Average temperatures will be down to two or three degrees cooler than usual. It looks like a month where you should plan all outside activities with care and squeeze them in whenever possible and not delay any of them. Keep in mind the old adage, "Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today." That is what the weather tells us for the month of September, in view of the above-average precipitation. V

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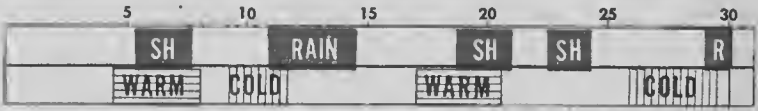


Quebec

About half of this province will be drier than normal, but there will not be many people who will be aware of it, for it will occur in the northern half. In the southern half, where the main population centers are located, you may expect a cool, wet month to start off the fall. Precipitation will not be greatly in excess of normal, but the several storms which do occur will produce more than you are used to in September. Temperatures also

will not be excessive, but enough below normal to let you know that winter is on the way. Over the province as a whole, the averages will be down to three to four degrees below normal. Causing the departure will be the cool periods noted above, during which you may expect temperatures to dip below the freezing mark. Outside work will be on a catch-as-catch-can basis, and even if you don't start stocking up for the winter, it'll be a good idea to think about it. V

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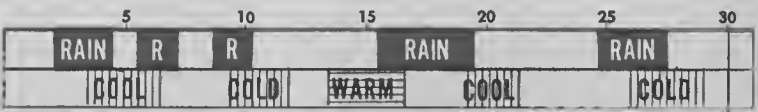


Maritime Provinces

The first week or two of the month will be characterized by rain occurring every two or three days. The remainder of September will ease off as far as precipitation is concerned, but enough more will happen to send the total amounts to above normal in the western portions, and near normal in the east. A considerable amount of cold weather is expected, which will bring the temperature averages on the negative side with regard to long-

term normals. Not too good a month for outdoor work, but there will be periods when you may get quite a bit accomplished. Plan on a few good days between the 10th and 15th and then again around the 22nd for your outside work. These will be the best; other than those two intervals, get out when you can. Fall is on the way, use the rest of the time for planning purposes. Stock up against the winter, which will soon be here. It pays to be prepared. V

PRECIPITATION
SEPT.
TEMPERATURE



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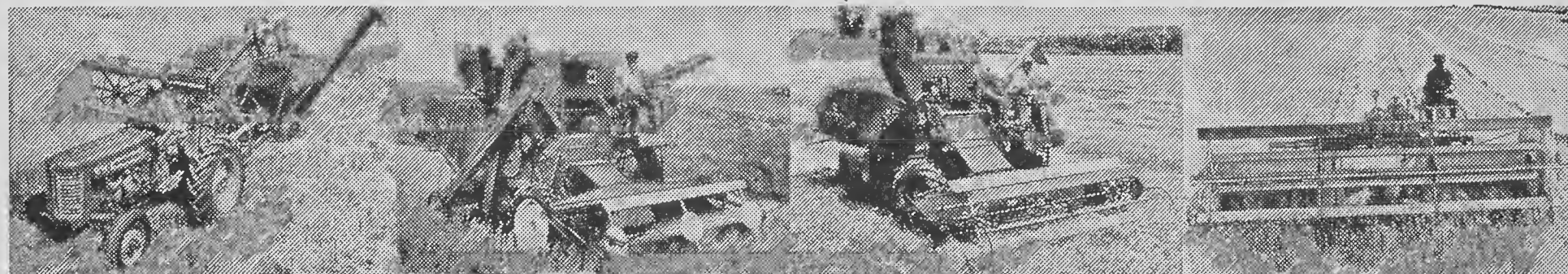
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Protection for Poultry Producers

PPRICE support and import controls on turkeys and fowl went into effect on July 17. Hon. D. S. Harkness, acting Minister of Agriculture, stated that the government had acted to protect the poultry industry against falling prices, in the face of abundant local supplies and heavy imports.

Turkey prices are being supported at 25 cents per pound live weight, delivered Toronto and Montreal, for birds of 20 pounds and under. Appropriate differentials are being applied, where necessary, for other weights and market centers.

Fowl prices are being supported at 23 cents per pound live weight, for birds of five pounds and over, delivered Toronto, with appropriate differentials for other weights and markets.

The action by the Government came the day after a joint delegation of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture and the Canadian Turkey Federation met with a group of federal cabinet ministers to request that turkeys be placed immediately under price support and import controls, and that the previous announced date of August 1, for the placing of supports on fowl, be advanced.

Ag. Rep. Service Now 50 Years Old

THE first to be established in Canada, the Ontario Agricultural Representative Service is now 50 years old. This event was celebrated at the annual ag. rep. conference in Guelph, recently, when a panel of pioneers provided one of the highlights of the three days.

Among them was F. C. Hart, one of the first six ag. reps. appointed in Canada, who started in 1907 in Waterloo County. W. P. Macdonald of Lambton County, another of the veterans, retired after establishing a record of 40 years in the service. Two more long-time ag. reps. taking part were W. G. Marritt of Wentworth County, and J. E. Whitelock, Halton County, who also acted as chairman of the panel of pioneers.

J. A. Carroll, who retired as assistant deputy minister of agriculture for Ontario last year, and is a fellow of

the Agricultural Institute of Canada, was also on the panel, with J. C. Steckley, director of the Western Ontario Agricultural School at Ridgetown. Completing the pioneer team was W. C. Barrie of Galt, who is known internationally as the manager of Canadian plowing teams overseas.

Top Swine Show at Brandon

CONGRATULATIONS are due to organizers of the smooth-running and well-housed All-Canada Swine Show held this year at Brandon, Man. Top honors among the 530 exhibits were shared by Ontario and Manitoba. W. Turnbull and Sons, of Brussels, Ont., showed the grand champion boar, and Alex McPhail and Sons, Brandon, had the grand champion sow.

The sale which followed was one of the largest ever held. The 109 head averaged \$157. Breed averages were: Yorkshire \$121, Landrace \$334, English Yorkshire \$112, and Tamworth \$78. Landrace had the highest breed top of \$800, but the Yorkshires were ahead in numbers, as usual, and had a breed top of \$400.

A new feature of the All-Canada Show was the first public showing of the Lacombe breed, which has been developed from the Landrace, Chester White and Berkshire breeds, to produce a suitable type for crossing with the Yorkshire. There was a lot of interest in the Lacombe, but a typical farmer comment was "Let's wait and see what happens when they're made available to us."

Calls for More Grassland

N. J. THOMAS, associate professor of soils, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, emphasized the importance of high-producing grasslands in modern farming, in an address to the Plant Food Producers of Eastern Canada Convention, held at Murray Bay, Quebec, July 10 to 14. He reported that records taken on 1,200 Ontario farms indicate that approximately 35 per cent of the nutrient requirements for dairy cattle are derived from pasture. Supplies of good hay, or grass

(Please turn to page 46)



Pioneers of the 50-year-old Ontario Agricultural Representative Service at a celebration in Guelph recently were (left to right): W. C. Barrie, J. C. Steckley, F. C. Hart, J. E. Whitelock, J. A. Carroll, W. P. Macdonald and W. G. Marritt.

CFA Prepares For Presentation to Cabinet

The Federation reached many important decisions at its midsummer meeting at the Head of the Lakes

FARM leaders from across Canada, representing the member organizations of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, met in semi-annual meeting at Port Arthur, Ont., July 24-26. Special emphasis was given to various policies and programs which, if implemented, would raise incomes in many segments of the farm industry. It was felt that aggressive action was needed in face of continually rising costs of production and falling prices for some farm commodities. Attention at this meeting was also given to ways and means of making the organization more effective in its operations.

A large number of specific proposals, arising out of committee reports and resolutions brought forward by member bodies, were presented and discussed. Discussions by the Board on the majority of these topics formed the basis of the first CFA submission to the Cabinet of the new Progressive-Conservative Government, to be made in Ottawa the following week, by a representative delegation of CFA members headed by President H. H. Hannam.

AMONG the most significant actions taken at the meeting was a revision of the CFA policy statement on price supports. It was broadened to include a more general use of deficiency payment price supports, as a method of raising depressed farm income, and supplemental to market price supports.

Under the deficiency payment method market prices are allowed to find their own level without benefit of purchases by the Agricultural Prices Support Board. Producer returns are augmented by direct treasury payments based on the difference between the support prices, and the actual returns obtained on the market. In contrast to this, market price supports are used by the Agricultural Prices Support Board, when it undertakes to buy a product at some minimum price, thus ensuring that the market for the product will not go below this price.

The CFA believes that the stage has been reached where the deficiency payment method needs to be applied more broadly, particularly in those instances where there has been a persistent tendency for farm prices to drop below a reasonable relationship to their costs of production. Previously, the CFA had viewed the deficiency payment method as being almost exclusively applicable to perishable farm commodities.

The Agricultural Prices Support Act, 1944, permits the government to use either the deficiency payment, or market price support method, and both have been used on occasion. As with market price supports, the CFA fair relationship price formula could be used as a valuable guide in determining deficiency payments.

The following is a summary of other major decisions reached at the meeting:

Grain. To meet the emergency situation facing the western grain grower, whose average returns have been consistently below 80 per cent of a fair relationship price for the past four years (based on the CFA

formula), the government will be asked to: (1) Proclaim immediately, by Order-in-Council, the Prairie Grain Producers' Interim Financing Act to provide government-backed loans to farmers at a rate of interest as low as possible, and in any event not higher than that now paid by the Canadian Wheat Board (4¾ per cent). (2) Make deficiency payments on wheat, oats and barley delivered to the Canadian Wheat Board in the 1955-56 crop year, to provide growers with a final price in more reasonable relationship to their costs of produc-

tion. Furthermore, the government will be asked to take immediate action to stabilize the price of Ontario wheat at a level commensurate with the costs of production in that province.

Surplus Disposal. The meeting resolved that unusual and extraordinary measures be devised to dispose of surplus agricultural products, and that programs of surplus disposal be developed in co-operation with other nations. In particular, the government would be requested to take immediate steps to press for the world-wide

(Please turn to page 47)



This group of steers went to market 5 days after this picture was taken. They averaged 3.04 lbs. daily gain, and all graded Choice. Jack Owens scoops ground corn and cab meal plus shelled corn into bunks, while his father gets ready to top-feed 'Stilbosol'-fortified supplement.

Considered 2¼ lbs. daily gain "good" before supplements with 'Stilbosol'...

Father-and-son team now regularly puts more than 3 pounds of gain per day on fattening steers. Cost of gain cut by 4 to 5 cents per pound.

by Eugene S. Hahnel

Within the past twelve months, Roy and Jack Owens have marketed two groups of steers that were fed supplements with 'Stilbosol.' One group of 30 steers put on 3.28 pounds per day, for 121 days, at a total feed cost of 16¢ per pound of gain. The second group of 33 steers gained 3.04 pounds per day for 123 days.

Mr. Owens has fed cattle for 25 years. Here's what this veteran feeder says about 'Stilbosol'-fortified supplements: "We used to think daily gains of 2

to 2¼ pounds were awful good. Now, 'Stilbosol'-fortified supplements have given us better gains and cut our costs of gain. Our cost per pound of gain used to run around 20 to 21 cents. Supplements with 'Stilbosol' have lowered our cost around 4 to 5 cents. Also, the cattle are quieter, eat steadily, and stay on feed."

Uses feed manufacturer's help—The Owens' feed manufacturer's representative definitely fits in with their business. "Just the other day," says young Jack, "we had a steer that was off a bit. Our feed man came down, looked at the steer, and helped us work with the veterinarian to determine the trouble. He was helpful, too, in getting us started on supplements with 'Stilbosol.'"

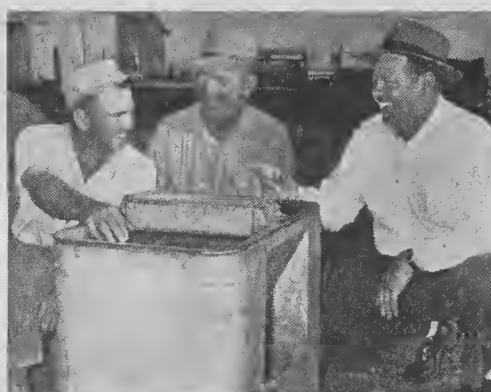
Jack's attractive wife, Mary, is an important member of the Owens team. It was Mary's bookkeeping which revealed the full benefits of feeding supplements fortified with 'Stilbasol.'

Joe Pawell (right), feed manufacturer's representative, helps the Owens keep a close watch on new developments in feeding and management. This is their 6th group of 'Stilbasol'-fed cattle.

'Stilbosol' is Eli Lilly and Company's trademark for Diethylstilbestrol Premix which is manufactured and sold under exclusive license granted by Iowa State College Research Foundation, Inc., under its U.S. Patent No. 2751303.



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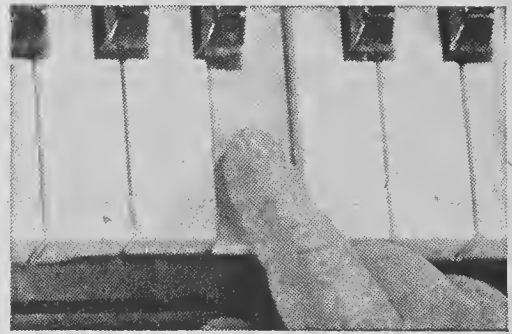
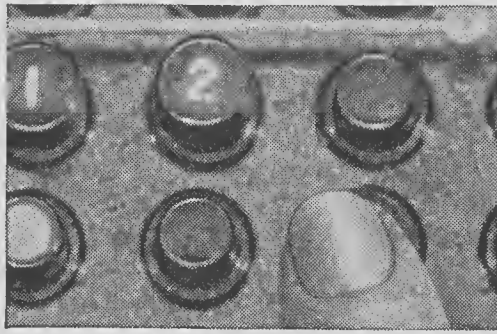
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What If Drought Comes?

Drought is an ever-present threat to western Canada, and it can happen suddenly. Here is what professional agriculturists and weathermen in Canada and the United States say about it

by RICHARD COBB

NOBODY knows when it will happen. Nobody can say how long it will last. But unless the climate of western Canada has changed completely, a drought will come to the Prairies again. In a sense, it doesn't matter whether it comes soon or late, or whether it is long or short, because the time to prepare for a drought is now.

The Prairies are an area of low precipitation. The Great Plains of the United States are, too, and several years of drought there have shown, once again, that it is dangerous to be unprepared for dry years. At least it can be said that many lessons have been learned there, and in Canada since the Thirties, which show that it is not impossible to stay in business, even when a drought strikes hard. The need to follow these practices at all times becomes clearer if we look at the way the weather has behaved in the past.

This region gets most of its precipitation from large, low-pressure systems moving across it. In winter the air is too cold to contain a lot of moisture, but the moisture increases in spring and summer, and the heating of the earth's surface helps to release it as rain. The total precipitation varies between 12 and 22 inches a year, on the average, which is so low that it's said to be critical. Compare this with an average of 30 to 50 inches in the Maritimes, and 60 inches on the Pacific coast.

Back in the 1890's the precipitation was light, becoming heavier around the turn of the century. Then it was generally below normal over the Prairies for the next 30 years, reaching a low in the 1910's, and culminating in the drought of the '30's. Precipitation became heavy in the early 1940's, but was near normal for the remainder of that decade. It has been at a relatively high level again in the '50's, as a series of good harvests has shown. This is only a brief summary, and of course there were local and regional periods of drought, or abundant moisture, during those 60 years which don't fit into the pattern.

Lurking behind these alternating wet and dry periods are the sunspots. There is some disagreement as to what effect they have, but they are important, and their appearance can be predicted fairly accurately by

astronomers. These sunspots are cooler areas in the sun's atmosphere, which build up to a large number every 10 or 11 years, and to an even greater number every 20 to 24 years, in what is called "the double sunspot cycle." Sunspots influence the amount of radiation reaching us from the sun, seeming to bring changes in the wind pattern of the earth's atmosphere. Changes in the wind pattern would have some effect on our precipitation.

Records in the United States appear to point to a connection between sunspots and the shift from wet years to dry and back to wet again, which takes about 22 years, or the duration of a double sunspot cycle. This is shown by the fact that dry periods began in 1886, 1910, 1930 and 1951 in the Great Plains region.

It doesn't always follow that if there is a drought over the Great Plains of the United States, it will also affect the Canadian Prairies. But, of course, it can happen, as it did in the 1930's. Putting our own weather and the sunspot cycle together, we find that we had periods of low precipitation around the end of the last century, in the 'teens and the '30's. This would place the beginning of another dry period within the next few years. The experts do not forecast this, but it could happen. What can be done about it?

IN May, a group of federal and provincial soil and plant scientists and extension workers from Saskatchewan toured the drought areas of the Great Plains in the United States. This drought has been as long and severe as the one in the '30's. As a result of it, 700 counties in 15 states were drought emergency areas, and 29 million acres were in condition to blow at the beginning of this year. Since then there has been snow and rain, and even some flooding, but a lot more precipitation will be needed before the drought can be said to have ended.

The Saskatchewan team came across many heartbreaking situations in their travels. But what is more important, they saw that many of the good farmers had done the right things and were still producing. Those who thought they needn't bother too much as long as crops were growing

(Please turn to page 43)



[Photo by Bob Taylor]

Good grass cover on land unsuitable for permanent cultivation will provide a feed reserve, as hay or silage, and will save native grasses in a drought.

- **Keep a good trash cover, using blades rather than disks. Don't burn stubble. Strip cropping, cover crops and windbreaks will also help to hold the topsoil.**
- **Don't keep light, sandy soils in continuous cultivation. Grass is the best way to ensure that they won't become dust bowls again.**
- **Kill weeds. They steal precious moisture and plant foods. Use fertilizers also to make the best use of moisture that is available.**
- **Keep at least 50 per cent grass cover on rangeland. Build up a reserve of hay and silage. Rotate pastures and don't overgraze them.**
- **Store moisture in the soil with a good cover, but also build dugouts and dams to store more water. Irrigate where it is practical.**
- **Don't be fooled by the rainy years. The weather can change fast.**



[Alberta Govt. photo]

Blade implements, like the Noble blade shown here, will maintain trash cover for as long as three years and assist in keeping moisture losses low.

POLITICS AND FARM POLICIES

THE future of Canadian agriculture was the title of the talk. The place was a one-roomed school in northwestern Manitoba. The time was 1935. The speaker was the principal of the collegiate in Dauphin.

When this reporter recently chatted with the ex-principal who made the speech, he admitted that he had no clear recollection of just what had been said nor would he try too hard to remember! But he did recollect that two years later some had charged him with being a warmonger, because he cautioned another audience that war was coming. Correct in that, perhaps he was also right about agriculture.

The war that he foresaw did come, and when it ended, the ex-principal had earned a colonel's rank and a distinguished service award. The agriculture, whose future he predicted, is more likely now to give him sleepless nights.

The respected and learned teacher, the successful soldier, the post-war lawyer, is the Hon. Gordon Churchill, Canada's new minister of trade and commerce, successor to the mantle of Mr. C. D. Howe, and new grappler with Canada's wheat surplus.

When I asked his plans for dealing with the wheat surplus, Mr. Churchill ran his hand through his thinning hair. "It's a large problem and a pressing one," he said. "Certainly it has remained unsolved over a period of years." He paused a moment. "Perhaps I should not go further at this time than to say that we will enlist the services of the best minds in the country to grapple with the problem. Also that we will try and look at it from a fresh point of view."

This reporter has talked to grain growers, farm leaders, grain company officials and, latterly, ministers and officials in Ottawa regarding the problems of Canada's farmers, and especially the surplus-plagued wheat farmer. Unanimity emerges on two points: Something needs to be done, and the difficulty of doing anything really effective can scarcely be exaggerated.

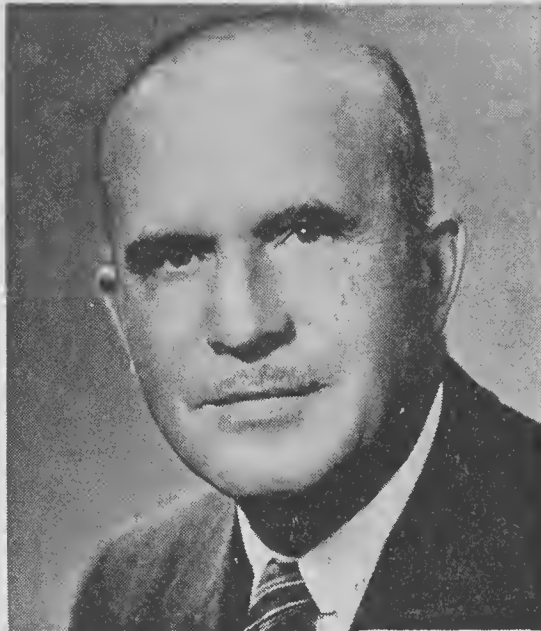
One of the reasons why something must be done is economic, and the other is political.

THE political reason grows out of the recent federal election campaign. No one thing was responsible for the Liberal reverses and the offsetting Conservative gains. But certainly many farm votes were marked for Conservative candidates, in the hope and expectation of new policies that would bolster farm income. An honest effort to honor these commitments must, and no doubt will, be made.

The economic reason is no less demanding. Farm costs are rising steadily, and indeed, are already so high that they are pressing hard on income. At the present time we have some 650 million bushels of surplus wheat, perhaps 100 million bushels of oats, and half as much barley. Harvest is approach-

Reactions of responsible federal politicians and officials to the impact of current farm problems on Canada's new and untried government

by RALPH HEDLIN



[Michel J. Sym photo]

Gordon Churchill, trade minister, hopes for a fresh point of view on the wheat surplus.

ing and it is no secret that available commercial storage—terminal and local—is choked with grain.

The new crop will be piled on top of grain stocks that are already flooding farm bins. Farm deliveries are likely to be very dependent on overseas sales. And, although overseas sales are holding up quite well, they are increasingly complicated by United States give-aways, by the dollar shortages in customer countries, by subsidized wheat exports from such countries as France and Sweden, and by the persistent world surplus of bread grains.

If wheat farmers are to have a cash income adequate to meet costs this fall, they cannot rely entirely on the returns from grain delivered to country elevators. There is no evidence to support the expectation of really substantial deliveries. Quite apart from election promises, the policy-makers will be led directly to the question of cash advances on farm-stored grain.

The whole question of cash advances is prickly with problems. Should they be made through the Wheat Board, through some form of municipal committees, through the banks, or through elevator companies? Will they be interest-free or interest-bearing? Will the advances be made on wheat only, or on other grains also?

How will the hard-pressed farmers in Ontario, the Maritimes, and British Columbia react to aid for wheat farmers, when the dairy farmer, the fruit grower, the raiser of special crops, is also plagued by rising costs?

These questions are being asked here in Ottawa, and by thoughtful farmers and farm leaders across Canada. At the time of writing no one has come up with a wholly satisfactory answer.

THERE is little support for cash advances through the Wheat Board. It is universally feared that it would weaken the Board's position as a grain marketing agency. Municipal councils, as such, do not wish to become involved, although municipal committees—the pattern used in the United States for similar farm policy administration—have been discussed.

Indeed, such committees clearly have some merit. Perhaps one or two persons in each municipality could be named by the council. This committee would then determine the quantity and quality of the grain stored on the farm, and ensure that it is safely stored. Having done so, the committee members would sign the necessary papers to permit the advance to be made.

Under such an arrangement the farmer concerned would, presumably, go to the bank for his cash advance. It is generally assumed that the federal treasury would pay part, at least, of the interest.

What about the elevator companies, as machinery for the advances? Certainly there is support for making the advances through the elevators. But many feel that the complications would be real and hard to resolve. Clearly, it would be physically impossible for the elevator agents to inspect the grain on the farms of all their customers. It would leave them time for nothing else. How, then, can they know the grade of the grain against which cash is being advanced, and how safely it is stored?

There is also a constitutional problem. Under Section 91 of the B.N.A. Act, the Government of Canada is given authority over banks and banking. If the advances are made through banks the federal government can easily make the advance a prior claim against the grain. But it is not so simple when advances are made through elevator companies. The way the law presently reads, a number of other liens would take precedence, and unless the law were altered, presumably with the aid of enabling provincial legislation, an elevator agent could not legally deduct the equivalent of a cash advance when there were certain other liens against the grain, except when the advance was made by a bank.

All of these problems can, presumably, be resolved by a determined federal government, but the number of factors (Please turn to page 45)



[Guide photo]

It is no secret that all the available commercial storage is choked with grain. Something must be done for political as well as economic reasons.



Rising costs led to declining net farm income. There is an almost unanimous view in Ottawa that eastern farmers feel this more than western ones.

Hybrid Corn Ups Profits

Ontario grows hybrid seed corn along with other cash crops and tops off the year-round operation with winter feeding of steers

by DON BARON



[Guide photos] Corn is elevated from wagon to truck for delivery to a contracting seed firm. Cobs are inspected carefully so that the load is uniformly good.

CORN, the highest-yielding grain crop, has become an important part of the farming program in just about every part of Ontario. Farmers are looking to the rich cash-crop areas of Essex and Kent counties in the southwest, where the crop has been a specialty for many years, to learn some of the secrets of getting 100-bushel yields from this tall-growing grain.

In learning to grow the crop, beginners are facing the same problem that farmers like Jack Chinnick, at Merlin, met a dozen years ago when he first turned to corn.

He did well to get 60 bushels to the acre then. Now, if he doesn't get over

100, he says, "I've let the farm down. I know the field isn't wrong, because all of my land can yield over 100 bushels."

His growing techniques have been so successful that he has won a contract for 60 acres of seed corn—a tasty plum when you figure it brings him a bonus of about a dollar a bushel over regular corn prices.

According to agricultural representative Ken Lantz, that contract is a sure sign that Jack is doing an outstanding job. For in this heartland of the Canadian hybrid seed corn business, seed companies demand results from growers before they hand out such contracts.

That's because care and service, more than with most farm products, are the watchwords in growing seed corn. Price competition went out of the farm-selling of corn years ago. A seed corn marketing board, representing the growers, bargains with the seed houses; and once agreement is reached, every grower is on the same basis price-wise. That gives the spoils to growers who can turn out high yields of carefully grown corn from fertile fields, and it makes every detail during the growing season loom large and significant.

At pollination time, for instance, a dozen men will head for Jack's corn fields, with clippers in hand, to walk up and down the rows, clipping the tassels off the female plants to assure true hybrid inheritance. Once over isn't enough, either. Some hybrids must be detasseled several times during the season, and when precisely the right time arrives, rain or shine, the job must be done. It cost Jack \$24 per acre for that operation alone last year.

Before the crop reaches that stage of growth, however, some other specifications that regular grain corn growers would call a waste of good working time, must be met. Isolation requirements are laid down by the Canadian Seed Growers Asso-

ciation, and these require him to find a location for his crop at a specified distance from any other field of corn.

He must build a high, balanced fertility, and a high organic content in his soil to meet the seed company's specifications and assure himself of a high yield. He must seed two rows of a male variety between every six rows of the female variety, to assure adequate cross-pollination.

Even then, big yields of a carefully grown corn aren't all that is required of the grower in this demanding business. "I've got to co-operate with the seed company to maintain this contract," he explained. "They agree to take all the acceptable corn from my acreage, and I don't even have to store it. But I must be ready to harvest it on the very day they require it."

THESE details make growing hybrid seed corn a more elaborate business than most farmers care for. Nevertheless, the consequence of care and detail is high yields, which anyone would welcome.

First, he must balance his farm enterprise with a variety of crops, and spread a big work load throughout the season, to make full use of the machinery he owns.

That's why, on his 190 acres, he ran a lineup of crops like this last year; corn—60 acres; sugar beets—25 acres; tomatoes—14 acres; soybeans—35 acres; burleigh tobacco—3 acres. Each of these is a high-labor crop. As well, he grew 25 acres of seed wheat, 18 acres of oats, or mixed grains, and 10 acres of alfalfa, as feed for the carlot of steers he feeds during the winter.

Tomatoes and tobacco both require hand-planting of the seedlings, so they justify a transplanter. It's only one of an impressive array of machinery.

"Machinery is the biggest hazard of a farm like this, too," Jack told us. "With my variety of crops, I could go bankrupt fast, just buying machinery. But I'm lucky. My brother farms nearby. We have a large combine, a sugar beet harvester, a two-row corn picker, a baler, bale elevator, and side delivery rake, all on shares. That cuts my investment in half. Then I have three tractors of my own, and a full line of tillage and seeding equipment."

CASH-CROPPING like this calls for great care in handling the soil; and Jack is a firm believer in the value of livestock and manure. He feeds as many as 65 steers over a winter, and usually has enough sows to sell 100 pigs a year.

"I like to manure the farm at least every four years," he explains.

Each field grows corn every third year. In the interval, between corn crops, each field grows a crop of clover, or gets a dressing of manure. Also, he uses soil tests every year as a starting point for his fertility program.

"But the test doesn't tell everything," he adds. "I've got to interpret the results of it."

Nitrogen is his key to the soil. When he began fertilizing he got very little response. Then, he upped the nitrogen application, and yields began to zoom. He plows down stalks and provides plenty of nitrogen to help the bacteria decompose them. "If I don't put on the nitrogen, I can plow those stalks back out of the ground a year later, almost intact."

When preparing for corn, Jack plows down 300 to 500 pounds of phosphoric acid and potash, in either fall or spring.

"The seedlings get no value from potash," he explains, "but this method puts it down, where the roots of the older plants will reach it when they require it."

Fertilizer goes on at planting time too, and then, when the plants are 12 to 20 inches high, they are side dressed with ammonium nitrate or anhydrous ammonia. (Please turn to page 47)



Male and female plants are grown in a 2:6 ratio. Only cobs from female plants are picked for seed.



Some of the 65 steers that provide winter work and a profitable outlet for cash-crop wastes.

The Dog

There was a worthwhile incentive and a perfect alibi for murder, but Ned Hargis hadn't counted on the cunning and loyalty of old Gleason's dog, Maje

by PAUL ANNIXTER

to get out of here first thing in the morning, Ned thought. He did not sleep again but lay cold in his blankets till dawn.

AT daybreak Ned filled the water keg from the side-hill seep and got the sheep out of the bed ground. He stood in the early light trying to judge the best course to take across the wide pinon-clad plateau that stretched ahead. He was not intrinsically an outdoors man and had paid little heed to the courses Old Man Gleason had taken to come into the mountains. He whistled and called to the dog. At last Maje came but no closer than 50 yards where he stood watching. He had not touched the plate of food. Perhaps when the team and the flock itself were in motion the dog would come to life. Ned climbed to the wagon seat and drove recklessly out onto the plateau, heading in what he thought to be the general direction of the railroad.

Answering his shouts and the zig-zagging of the wagon, the flock began grudgingly to move. Apparently the dog wasn't following. Ned hadn't seriously considered the point until now, but if the dog did not work with him he was going to be in a devil of a fix. From time to time Ned left the team standing and ran back and forth shivvying the sheep forward, then back to the wagon again to drive left or right along the flanks of the flock. But without the dog's help the sheep scattered to graze the moment the man left them. In three hours he had covered less than one straight mile.

Finally, in a rage, Ned drove back to the old camp. Down in the arroyo he saw Maje standing guard beside the cairn of rocks. Ned called to him but there was scarcely a movement of the dog's body. He spoke coaxingly now, but the dog did not so much as turn, and his tail hung dead. He had to do something. Ned picked up a heavy stick and advanced on the animal threateningly. Standing his ground beside the grave, the dog snarled at him. So! This was how things stood. In the greeny gleaming eyes the man read lethal menace. Except for the club in his hand the animal would doubtless have attacked him. There was a terrible purposefulness about him and Ned Hargis knew that he stood accused. It was as if the whole animal kingdom as well as the earth and trees pronounced sentence. Only for a moment the feeling lasted. Then in a fury of reaction Ned turned back to the sheep wagon and reached inside for his rifle. He'd fix the brute for this humiliation. But gun-wise, Maje melted into a clump of sage before he could throw the gun to his shoulder.

Ned stood considering. Perhaps it was lucky for him the dog had escaped shooting. No more of this temper on his own part. His one chance to get the precious flock back to the railroad was the dog. Ned banked on hunger now to bring the dog to him.

(Please turn to page 40)

NED HARGIS sat in the open door of the sheep wagon squinting in the orange light of the setting sun. A species of smile was on his face as he watched the big flock drifting like a slow fleecy cloud campward. Well, he was a rich man now, or going to be. He'd have enough money to laugh right back at all of them.

He was watching sharply for the dog. It was Maje, of course, who was swinging the flock in toward the wagon. Old Gleason's dog working his tail off for Ned Hargis. How often Gleason had said Maje was the best sheep dog he had ever known.

In a few minutes the sheep were gathered in a compact fold, but the dog kept darting back and forth whining and searching for his master. He jumped up into the camp wagon to check on things, smelled of Gleason's coat, then streaked off again paying no heed to the good meal Ned Hargis had set down for him. He'd come back to it later, Ned thought.

While he ate his own supper Ned heard the dog down in the arroyo and wondered if he had nosed out the spot. Any way you looked at it it was going to take a few days for the dog to adjust himself to the change, but Ned had little doubt but that his allegiance would finally be transferred to himself. Sheep were the dog's business and reason for being. He'd never desert the flock and neither would he—till he got the flock back to some railroad down where he could sell them.

Ned had known he was going to put Old Man Gleason away ever since the night the sheep man had told him in the fellowship of solitude about the money he had stashed away under the plank flooring of his cabin down in Agua Fria. "My whole life savings down there in a rusty tomato can," he had said.

Illustrated by
CLARENCE TILLENUS

Right there the idea had gone sizzling across Ned Hargis' brain: What good was a golden horde to that old greybeard? For a whole month now Ned had thought about it. There were nearly 2,000 sheep in the flock, worth \$12,000-\$13,000 on the hoof, Ned figured. And this had seemed to be the day. This afternoon while the dog was off about his business and Gleason was pottering about the camp, Ned had stepped up close and shot the old man in the back. He had thought Gleason would never know what hit him, but from the ground he turned upon Ned a look of stunned child-like amazement. His last faint words were: "My dog tried to tell me about you all along . . ."

The nearby arroyo had seemed the best place for the grave. Ned didn't have to dig much there. He had covered the body to a depth of three feet with earth and rocks, with heavy stones on top, thinking of coyotes. It gave him an uneasy feeling now, knowing the dog was down there. He had to remind himself that Maje couldn't talk. Even if he could there was no one to tell. Out here in the pinon country of New Mexico a man's trail ended where it began.

He waited till long after dark but the dog didn't come back. He got into his bunk in the wagon. In the night he was awakened by the desolate howling of Maje from the direction of the arroyo. Got



SAFE TRACTOR OPERATION

Hundreds of farm tractor accidents occur every year. This article tells you how to avoid them

by J. A. PECK

A FARM tractor accident seldom hurts the tractor to any extent. It hurts the operator, his family, his friends, his pocketbook, and his food production. Death or permanent disability are frequent consequences.

Tractor operators, like automobile drivers, are piling up a shameful record of needless tragedies. The number one killer on prairie farms is the ordinary farm tractor. It is the most used machine on our farms and yet it has been the cause of more fatalities than any other machine or any other type of accident. Manufacturers are trying to design safety into their machines, but they cannot make them foolproof.

Last year there were a total of 79 fatal farm accidents in Saskatchewan alone. Of this total 19 deaths occurred through misuse of the farm tractor. This story is almost parallel to what is happening in other provinces across Canada.

Let us analyze the 19 tractor fatalities to find out just how these accidental deaths occurred: 7 were killed when the tractor upset, 3 were run over by the tractor, 2 were pinned under the tractor, 3 were entangled in unguarded power take-off shafts, and 4 were injured fatally by miscellaneous accidents, including being thrown off the tractor or crushed between the tractor and other implements or buildings. It is estimated that for every fatal accident as many as 150 non-fatal accidents occur, which frequently disable the victims permanently.

ONE of the best ways of becoming familiar with the causes of farm accidents and how to prevent them is to review the accident reports that continually appear in local papers. Here are a number that appeared in Saskatchewan newspapers in 1956:

The tractor left the farmyard (in fifth gear it is believed), entered the roadway and immediately thereafter upset in the ditch which was 4 to 5 feet deep. The victim was pinned beneath the steering wheel and seat of the tractor. . . . The victim (age 47) was starting the tractor by cranking. The tractor apparently started at the first pull of crank and was in gear at the time. It came ahead jamming and crushing the victim between the tractor and another sitting in front of it. . . . The deceased (age 42) was at-

tempting to pull another tractor that was stuck. In doing so, his tractor went over backwards pinning him underneath. . . . The deceased (age 12) was holding the tongue of a trailer while his mother was backing up the tractor to hook on. The tractor lurched backwards pinning the child to the trailer. The mother was too excited to stop the tractor, or to shift the gears and move it ahead. . . . The deceased (age 60) caught the left sleeve of his leather jacket in the power take-off which was attached to his combine. . . . The deceased (age 62) was travelling up a steep hill when the tractor apparently stalled and began to roll downhill. The tractor's right rear wheel went up onto a bank, causing the machine to roll over, pinning the victim beneath it. . . . The deceased (age 26) was driving the tractor and pulling a one-way. He got off the tractor while it was in motion to adjust the depth control and slipped on the drawbar into the path of the one-way. The tractor made several turns around the field before getting stuck in some soft ground. . . . The deceased was swathing. The back of his coat got caught in the power take-off which did not have any guard. This pulled him off the tractor seat and wound him around the power take-off. . . . The deceased (age 15) was riding on the platform of a tractor driven by his sister (age 16). At

[Sask. Gov't photos]

This demonstration shows that power applied to the rear wheels, when they are blocked, lifts the front end of the tractor, tipping it over backwards.

the top of a steep hill the operator attempted to shift from high to second gear but the tractor rolled forward and was not in gear. It was a row crop type of tractor and the individual wheel brakes were not latched together. When the brake was applied the tractor swerved and rolled over into the ditch. It is not known if the deceased was run over by the tractor or by the trailer, on which three other small children were riding.

A TRACTOR is designed and built for work—to plow, cultivate and pull heavy loads. Its center of gravity has to be high which makes it easier to tip over. Row crop tractors have only a 3-point contact with the ground which makes them still easier to roll over if handled carelessly. The power applied where the rear wheels contact the ground is tremendous. If the wheels cannot keep moving, for some reason, the power will lift the front end of the tractor straight up and tip it over backwards. The careful operator learns to judge the overbalancing and tipping points and keeps his tractor right side up.

It is a great temptation to "step on it" when travelling from the field to

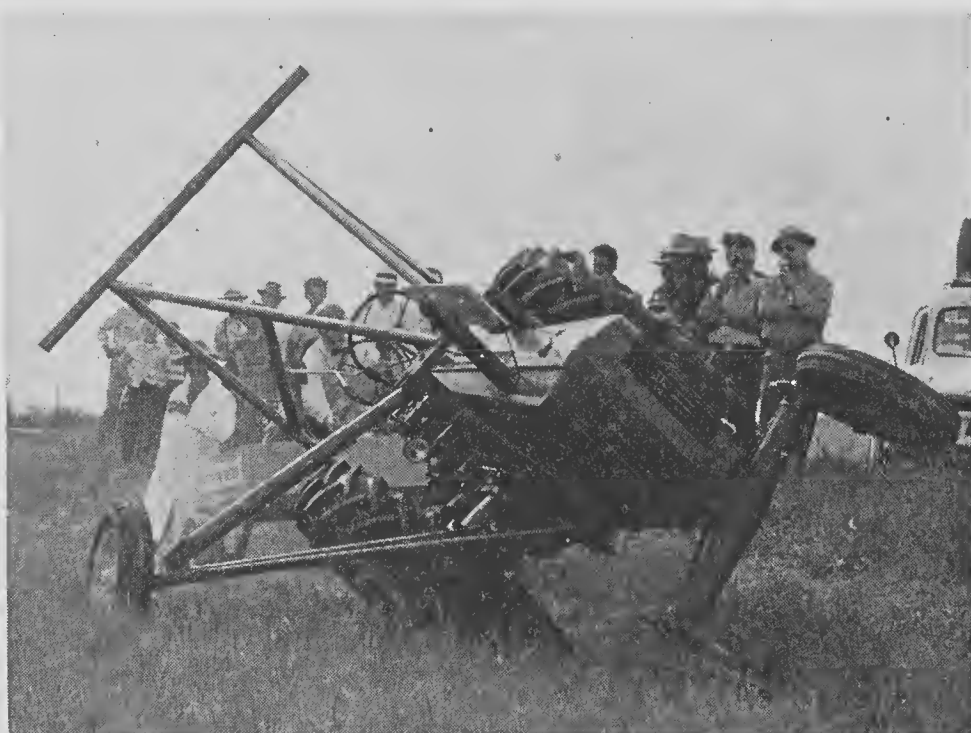
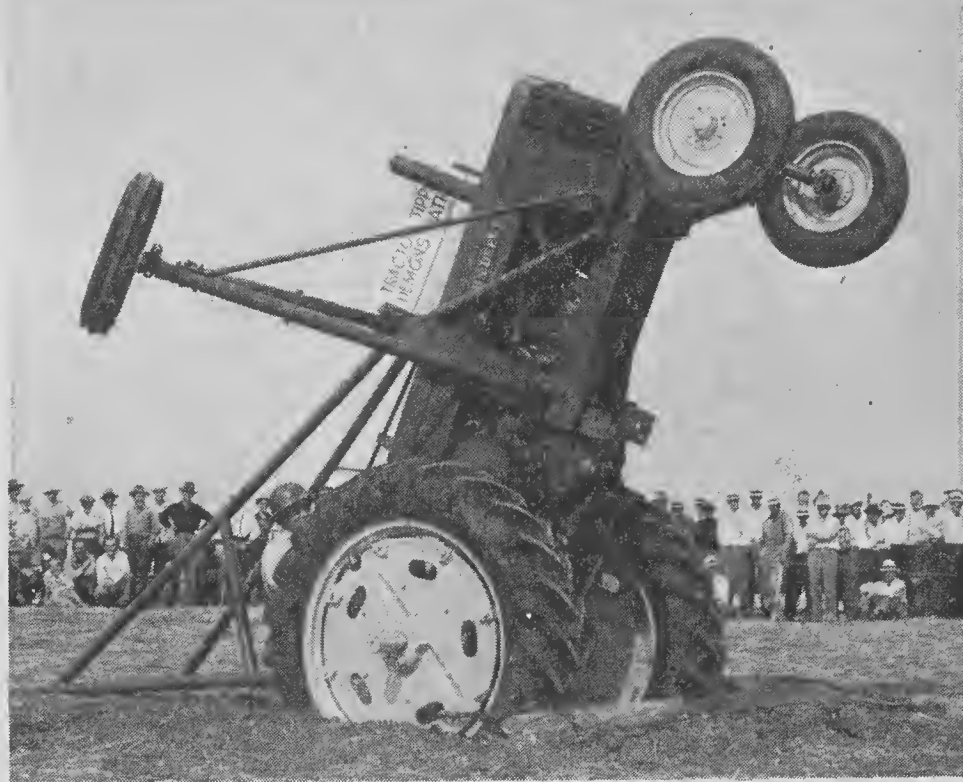
the farmstead, or just running around the farmyard. Your tractor is not balanced for speed, although it has the engine speed and power. Sometimes steering is more uncertain and control is more difficult than with an automobile. Statistics show that tipping, either backwards or sideways, causes nearly half of all tractor fatalities. Excessive speed is responsible for most side tips, with operating across steep slopes and near ditches next in importance. Forcing tractors from ditches and other places where rear wheels tend to become anchored accounts for most backward tips.

Many operators of farm tractors are not aware of the ease with which tractors will tip until it is too late. In order to show how tractors usually tip, the causes and remedies of these and many other types of farm accidents, a number of the provinces in Canada hold demonstrations for farm people. Considerable interest in these live demonstrations has been found in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Ontario. Manitoba at present is organizing a similar type of farm safety tractor-tipping demonstration.

Tractors which are used for demonstrating back tips are usually fitted with bracing to prevent them from completely turning over and damaging the tractor or injuring the operator. In Saskatchewan, the tractor is also equipped with an outrigger wheel mounted on the side and the tractor is controlled remotely from a trailer pulled behind. This is used to show side tipping with the aid of a ramp. During the summer many such demonstrations will be held at fairs, 4-H rallies, field days, and possibly sports days. The demand for these demonstrations at large events is far greater than it is possible to handle. If a demonstration is held in your district plan to attend. It will be worth your while. In the meantime, here is a list of tractor safety rules which, if practiced, should result in a marked reduction of accidents with tractors:

1. Be sure the gear shift lever is in neutral before starting the tractor engine.
2. Always drive carefully. Avoid excessive speed, holes, other ob-

(Please turn to page 49)



Tipping causes nearly half of all tractor fatalities. In this side tip demonstration the crew runs the tractor by remote control from the trailer behind.



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PARTS AND ACCESSORIES DIVISION—FORD MOTOR COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED

Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

ONE effect of Canada's election upset of June 10 has been a sudden awakening of American interest in Canadian politics. This may be just temporary, but it's a satisfactory state of affairs while it lasts. The first bewildered queries were followed by plenty of printed and broadcast information about the man who unhorsed the Liberals after 22 long years.

The new Prime Minister gave Americans cause to keep on talking about him and his minority government—particularly in Washington. They have paid special attention to his hope that about 15 per cent of Canada's imports could be diverted from the United States to Britain, also his comments about the unfairness of the current American wheat disposal program. The first of these statements has produced comments largely, though not entirely, of a skeptical nature; and it may be said that a good many people here in Ottawa also feel that a trade switch of as much as 15 per cent, will be difficult to accomplish. On the second point, however, there are signs that Mr. Diefenbaker's words have made a distinct impression in some official Washington circles.

His words were really no blunter than those uttered from time to time by Mr. Howe and others in the former Liberal government. But they seem to have received more attention, because the new Canadian Prime Minister is being very carefully watched for signs of his intentions. Washingtonians were quick to pick up his reference to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. One official, plainly on the defensive, submitted that the U.S., in the matter of wheat, might be violating the spirit, but not the letter, of GATT. This curious observation makes some Ottawans wonder just how much the U.S. values this international agreement, the object of which is freer trade.

The position is that the U.S. is not technically in violation of GATT, when it offers wheat abroad at a lower price than the product sells for at home. That is dumping; but there is nothing in the agreement to prevent an exporting country from dumping wheat. The agreement does protect an importing country against dumping should it feel injured; but the various countries now being offered long-term loans or local currency deals are not likely to object too much. The test is when any of them feel that their own economies are suffering.

Canada's real objection—and the Conservative government is taking up the argument where the Liberals left off—is that many of the concessional sales are conditional on the receiving country agreeing to buy American wheat in future. Thus markets are being tied up, with Canada and Australia the chief victims. Canada is being robbed of commercial markets by the most unfair means. It isn't a question of objecting to a genuine welfare program, for this country



would not look too well in the eyes of the world if it took such a position. The Canadian case is quite different.

The disposition here is to blame Congress more than the administration, for this thoroughly bad policy. The Eisenhower administration has been trying for some time to modify the high price-support policy upon which unwieldy surpluses are built, but without too much success. Congress listens to the folks back home, and if they want American wheat and certain other farm products to be unloaded abroad, as a more or less permanent policy and regardless of the cost to the American taxpayer, why, that's the way it's going to be.

The task, therefore, is to persuade the American public as a whole, that what their government is doing is putting a dangerous strain on relations with Canada, a neighbor whose good will they presumably would like to keep. So the publicity being given to statements by the Prime Minister—and, it is to be hoped, to equally forthright remarks at San Francisco, by a distinguished member of the opposition in Parliament,—L. B. (Mike) Pearson—might sift down to the grassroots level. It must, if there is to be any significant change in U.S. policy.

For the same reason, some good may come out of a joint United States-Canadian committee being set up by a private, non-profit American organization, the National Planning Association. This committee of 40 has as its joint chairman, Douglas Stuart, the last U.S. ambassador to Canada, and a flour miller; and R. M. Fowler, head of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association and familiar to Canadians in connection with the latest broadcasting probe. Its job is to examine and throw light on problems affecting the two countries, with emphasis on sources of friction.

What the Conservative government will do in the meantime about the wheat headache, and also about trade in general, is the subject of much lively speculation in Ottawa these hot summer days, but it's all guesswork. It's doubtful whether the government itself has a clear idea, as yet, what course it will take. More assistance to farmers for unsold wheat seems in prospect, and pressure on Washington to alter its wheat selling policy will no doubt be increased.

GET IT AT A GLANCE

The Horticultural Experiment Station, at Vineland, Ontario, has a new administrative and laboratory building. The minister of agriculture, the Hon. W. A. Goodfellow, laid the cornerstone on July 30. The additional accommodation will facilitate an expansion in the research work under way at the Station with both fruits and vegetables. ✓

Farm wages in Canada continued their upward movement, according to the latest report from the D.B.S. Average wages, with board, in cents per hour, of male farm help as at May 15, 1957, were as follows (figures in brackets are hourly rates without board): Maritimes 59 (73); Quebec, 67 (80); Ontario, 79 (95); Manitoba, 79 (98); Saskatchewan, 91 (115); all Canada, 75 (91). ✓

A world competition is being held to find the first-ever live litter of piglets to reach 1,000 pounds or more at eight weeks of age. The competition is being organized by the Farmer and Stock-Breeder, published in London, England. The present record is held by Britain at 966.5 pounds, achieved with a litter of 18 at the Hobbs Cross Farm. In the U.S., a litter of 15, in Iowa, weighed 935 pounds at 56 days. ✓

Canada's consumer price index advanced 0.4 per cent between May and June, to a new high of 121.6 (1949=100), largely as a result of higher food prices. The index in June a year ago was 117.8. Most of the May to June advance resulted from higher prices for all meats, notably pork, although higher prices for fresh fruits, some fresh vegetables and milk also contributed to the rise. ✓

Potato growers and the potato trade in Manitoba have been advised that regulations under the Vegetable Sales Act for Manitoba have been amended, making it compulsory to pack all Canada No. 1 potatoes in new bags, effective July 15, 1957. This regulation was put into force in order to further assist in the sale of Manitoba potatoes. ✓

Farm investment per worker in the U.S. has reached the \$15,000 mark, up 450 per cent in 15 years. The comparable capital investment figure for each industrial worker in the U.S. is \$13,000. ✓

Canadian cheddar cheese continues to command the top price on the United Kingdom wholesale markets. It was recently reported to be selling for as much as \$44.02 per 100 pounds for 1956 white. The nearest competitor, Scotch matured cheddar, was selling at the time for \$32.90 per 100 pounds. ✓

Industrial use of agricultural products can absorb enough excess farm production to minimize, or possibly eliminate, costly restrictions, supports and surplus disposal programs, provided the necessary steps are taken to make possible and encourage such a development. This was the finding of the U.S. President's Commission on Increased Industrial Use of Agricultural Products. The Commission's main recommendation was for a

greatly expanded research program in the use of farm products. ✓

Dr. M. W. Cormack has been named chief of the new Canada Department of Agriculture research laboratory, on the campus of the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon. He was formerly head of the Plant Pathology Section, Science Service Laboratory, Lethbridge, Alberta. ✓

State-owned farms in Guatemala, covering an area of more than half-a-million acres, are going on the auction block. A decree just approved by the Guatemala Congress paves the way for their disposal. The national farms are expected to sell products worth more than \$10 million, mainly coffee and sugar, during the current crop year. ✓

The U.S. Export-Import Bank has granted Japan a \$115 million loan for the purchase of cotton, wheat, barley and soybeans in the United States, and has said that it is ready to give Japan an additional \$60 million for the purchase of cotton at the end of the present growing season. ✓

Inventor of the Noble blade cultivator, as well as other implements and farming methods, Dr. C. S. Noble died last month at Lethbridge, Alta., in his 85th year. His blade cultivator found ready acceptance both in Canada and the U.S., and recently came into prominence in combatting soil erosion during the Great Plains drought. ✓

Ontario winter wheat may be marketed by the Canadian Wheat Board in the near future. A delegation from the Ontario Wheat Producers' Association met with Hon. Gordon Churchill, minister of trade and commerce, to discuss the question. Ontario winter wheat price declined from \$1.90 to \$1.20 per bushel early this year. ✓

Australian scientists interested in rainmaking have set up a program which will cost \$200,000 a year, with the object not only of making rain under suitable conditions, but of altering the weather over a year in three different types of country, and studying the cost. Australia is the driest continent. ✓

Fodder Assistance for Saskatchewan farmers has been announced by the provincial department of agriculture, as a result of the below-average hay crop due to dry weather. The assistance will include moving haying equipment to areas where hay can be found in excess of 40 miles from home, and also the homeward movement of fodder. The department is also listing locations where hay is for sale. ✓

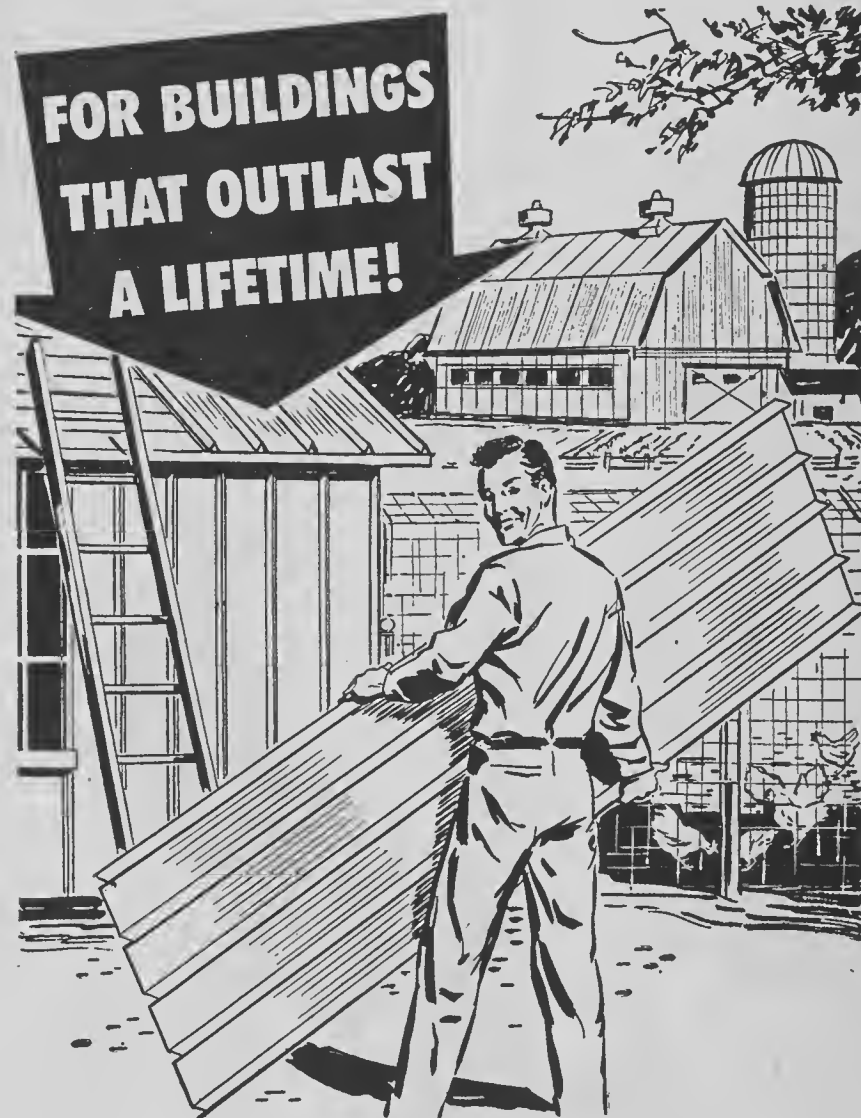
Imports of vegetable oils for margarine manufacture in Canada amounted to 189,335,780 pounds in 1956, including oilseeds (oil equivalent). Oil extracted from Canadian-grown soybeans totalled 28 million pounds, or only 10 per cent of the total available vegetable oils suitable for margarine. ✓

The Lacombe Experimental Farm, Alta., celebrated its 50th anniversary on July 31. ✓

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[O.A.C., Guelph, photo]

Dr. J. D. MacLachlan, Prof. R. P. Forshaw and Prof. E. C. Stillwell examining hog carcasses at O.A.C., Guelph.

Hybrid Corn In Hog Feeding

CAN corn be fed to market hogs without producing carcasses that are too fat? This has become a pressing problem, especially in Ontario, where new hybrid corn varieties are extending the area in which this crop can be grown successfully. Corn is a high energy feed, and it is also economical, and that's why farmers are showing great interest in it as a hog feed.

Fully aware of this trend, and of the danger of overfat carcasses if it is mishandled, the Ontario Agricultural College has been making some tests, with the object of finding out whether the corn feed can be modified. The idea is to include lower energy feeds in the ration at certain stages of growth, and to adjust protein levels to produce high grade carcasses.

Prof. R. P. Forshaw of O.A.C. told the Canadian Society of Animal Production in Vancouver recently about their progress to date. He said that corn can be used with a moderately high protein ration during the growing period without affecting carcass quality. But higher levels of corn during the finishing period resulted in carcasses that were too fat for the highest grades. This is only a preliminary report on experiments which are still continuing at the College.

The Case For Feeder Heifers

THE lower price per pound for heifers compared with steers has become more noticeable in recent years. The time has not yet come when farmers can choose the sex of their calves, but by careful timing of buying and selling, the feedlot operator may make equal or greater profits by feeding heifers than he would by feeding steers only.

A. W. Wood of the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Manitoba, says that the discount on slaughter heifers is usually much greater in the fall, especially in September and October, when it is often twice as much as it is in the first six months of the year. The discount on feeder heifers is usually much greater than on slaughter heifers. Therefore, if a farmer plans to feed only part of his calf crop, he might consider marketing his steer calves as feeders, while

feeding his heifers to slaughter weight, and selling them in the first half of the year, when discounts are lowest.

If you buy feeder cattle for finishing, you can often buy feeder heifers at such a large discount under feeder steers that it would be more profitable to feed heifers than steers, says A. W. Wood. This is despite the fact that heifer gains may cost slightly more than gains made by steers.

Silage In Fall and Spring

MANY dairymen have planned to build trench or bunker silos this year, according to Dave Ewart, who is herd improvement supervisor with the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. Six Saskatchewan dairymen on herd improvement testing have tried and proved feeding silage in the fall after pasture grass has become dry. In all cases the milk production per cow remained constant, instead of showing the drop which ordinarily accompanies the drying of pasture grass. This also held true when silage was fed in winter and well into the spring.

Another advantage of feeding silage in the spring is to keep cows off grass, allowing it to become established before it is heavily grazed.

Silage has three advantages over ordinary dry hay. It can be harvested and stored in weather unsuitable for cutting and stacking or baling dry hay. Silage can be made from a wider variety of crops. Thirdly, it can be fed to dairy cattle in the fall, when pasture grasses are dry and have little food value, and in the spring before the growth of new grass.

Homemade Water Float

STOCKMEN having trouble with the floats in their drinking troughs will find that a discarded anti-freeze can will make a float that'll stand the rigors of heavy use. A piece of wire is welded to the can and attached to a fishline swivel, which is hooked to the wire or rod leading to the water valve underneath. The swivel allows the can free action when it is bumped and nudged by the drinking animals.



[Guide photo]

An anti-freeze can, wire and a fishline swivel are all that is needed.

This photograph was taken on the farm of Fred Norris, Warner, Alberta.



[Guide photo

Soybeans grow best on deep fertile loams, and give their highest yield in a warm season with moderate moisture. They are very susceptible to frost.

How Ergot Disease Spreads

MOST grasses act as a source of ergot disease infection for wheat, barley and rye, if the environment is suitable. The infection occurs when these cereals are in the flowering stage, and the fungus growth replaces the kernels in the cereal head.

W. P. Campbell of the Plant Pathology Laboratory, Edmonton, describes the development of ergot as follows. You see it first when a syrup-like substance begins to ooze from the head of the cereal. This substance, known as "honey-dew," attracts insects, and this insect activity is an indication of ergot infection. As the disease develops, the blue-black ergot bodies, which have replaced the kernels, protrude from the cereal head and are conspicuous in threshed grain.

Modern seed-cleaning equipment will remove ergot bodies from seed grain. You can also reduce the formation and spread of this fungus by crop rotation, and by mowing grass in the vicinity of grain fields before the grasses bloom. There are no cereals or forage grasses resistant to ergot, but some varieties are less susceptible to the disease than others. V

Grain Crops Used as Pasture

IF you use barley as summer pasture, it can be grazed from six to seven weeks after seeding. Barley grows rapidly in early summer, and grazed at the rate of one cow per acre, gives from 60 to 90 days grazing. In very productive years, it is better to use a heavier rate of grazing, rather than to expect a longer season. This is because barley appears to lose its palatability during September.

Wheat pasture develops more slowly, and is not ready for grazing until eight or nine weeks after seeding. Experiments conducted by the Swift Current Experimental Farm, Sask., suggest that it can be grazed more readily through September and October than barley. Its carrying capacity equals that of barley if grazing is delayed until the recommended date.

Oats is ready for pasturing at seven to eight weeks after seeding, and will provide about 100 days of grazing at the rate of one cow per acre. It re-

covers better after grazing than barley or wheat, and produces green pasture for a longer season. Shattering losses in the fall may affect its other good qualities if the stands mature.

In brief, barley makes an early summer pasture, wheat is better for late season use, and oats produces the best general purpose grazing. V

Stubble Fallow Treatments Compared

THE Brandon Experimental Farm, Man., began an experiment last summer to study the efficiency of various ways to work stubble fallow. The treatments were: (1) No tillage, but herbicides applied as needed to control weeds; (2) two cultivations plus herbicides; (3) two cultivations only; (4) four cultivations; (5) six or more cultivations. Ratings were given at the end of the season on the erodability of the surface.

Out of a possible score of 60, given for cover provided by stubble and straw residue, the weed infestation, and the lumpiness of the soil, the treatment with herbicides alone scored 26, and the two tillages were rated at 26 too. With two tillages plus herbicide the score was 13, four tillages scored 10, and six or more tillages rated 4. Soil samples were taken to a depth of two feet in October, and these were tested in the laboratory to find the amount of water and nitrogen at that depth.

As a final test, wheat has been seeded on these plots this year, so that yields can be used to appraise the various treatments. V

Pasture Potential of Rape

RAPE can be good pasture for sheep and hogs, especially in the late fall, because it is not injured readily by frost. It gives a high yield of herbage, but it has a high moisture content and does not yield as much dry matter as oats, and is difficult to cure for hay. It is not a good crop for silage.

Only the biennial rape varieties are recommended as pasture, according to A. D. Smith of Lethbridge Experimental Farm, who says that the only biennial used in Canada is Dwarf Essex. V

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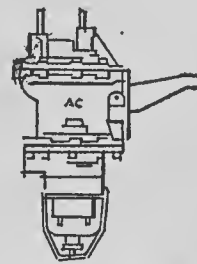
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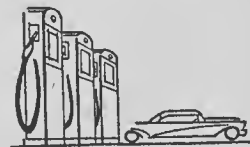


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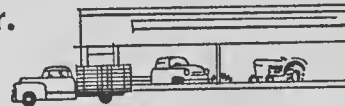


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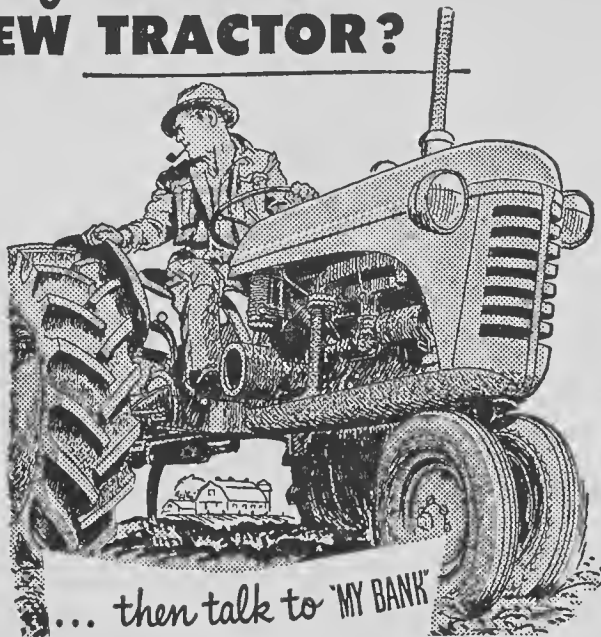
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HORTICULTURE



This neat garden, orchard and grove graces the farmstead of George Anderson, at Cadillac, Sask. Note the long rows for easy tillage, and clean fallow portion.

Shelterbelts Around the Farmstead

THE latest recommendation about shelterbelt planting from North Dakota, is to plant the shelterbelt all the way around the farmstead.

There, as on the Canadian prairies, the major winds come from the north and west. The arguments for south and east shelterbelts are that though south winds may be infrequent, they do come and can easily clog the farmstead with drifting snow; while in summer, the plantings on the south and east protect the buildings and livestock from hot, dry, south winds. In addition, the trees act as an effective dust and sand trap, a device which all farm housewives readily appreciate.

The recommendation is that plantings on the south and east need not be as heavy as on the north and west; and a three-row belt of shrubs, medium sized trees, and evergreens (or another shrub), will give adequate protection.

Care Needed For Peach Picking

PROFITS can be lost at peach picking time, according to O. A. Bradt, Horticultural Experiment Station, Vineland, Ontario.

Peaches are an unusually tender fruit, and not all fruit on the same tree matures uniformly. Picking peaches too soon not only disappoints the consumer, but reduces orchard profits. A test with one variety found that where 100 baskets of fruit were on trees 7 days before optimum maturity, 35 additional baskets of fruit could be harvested by leaving the peaches on the trees for the extra 7 days. Most varieties, says Mr. Bradt, will remain on the trees for several days after reaching optimum maturity, with very little loss from dropping. There is also much less chance of loss from brown rot than when the fruit is immature when picked.

As many as four pickings may be needed to properly harvest peaches; and the object should be to see that there is no more than two days' difference in the maturity of the peaches in a given package. Dr. Harry Upshall, chief research scientist at Vine-

land, urges that the orchard is the best place to leave cull peaches. Properly picked and packed, a basket of peaches purchased at retail should still be in good canning condition four days later.

Do Your Iris Need Moving Now?

WHEN bearded iris are producing smaller blooms, they need moving, and now is the time to do it. Moving them in July or August gives them a chance to become established before winter sets in. Use only the young outer portions and plant them in fresh soil, in clumps at least three feet apart. Use six to eight rhizomes, set at least six inches apart, for each clump.

Lily and tulip bulbs are planted or replanted at about the same time, in September or October, or at least before the ground freezes.

Plant lily bulbs at various depths from four to ten inches, according to species, and tulips at least five inches deep and up to seven or eight.

Peonies need planting in late August or September, keeping the crowns of the tubers at least two inches below soil level. Deeper planting may lead to poor blooming. Peonies like well-rotted barn manure in quantity, where this is available.

Garden Tractor Tool Adjustment

WHERE garden crops are planted in straight rows, and tillage is done with a two-wheeled garden tractor, it is sometimes difficult, says H. J. Kemp, of the Saanichton Experimental Farm, in B.C., to keep the tool operating in a straight line.

For disc-type implements, it is important that each half cuts at the same angle and depth. For rotary tillers, the most important adjustment is to see that the blades match. If some blades become worn, it is usually better to replace them all with new ones.

The cultivator is likely to work best if it is first adjusted carefully on a level floor. All teeth should be set for the same depth.

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POULTRY



[Guide photo]

Care is needed in the breeding, housing and handling of poultry under mass production methods. The birds are only as good as they are allowed to be.

Poultry Experts Concerned About Egg Quality

WHILE bred-to-lay hens, high-powered rations and new building techniques have been picked up fast by poultrymen to help streamline their egg businesses, these changes have produced other problems. The one causing the most concern at present is egg quality.

A lot of inferior eggs, lacking a sufficiently firm albumen or white to stand up when broken out, have been going to market in the past few months. These will grade B, and with an eight- or ten-cent penalty on B's compared with A's, this is hitting producers where it hurts.

Professor Ross Cavers, head of the poultry department at the Ontario Agricultural College, associates the problem with the greater popularity of specialized egg-laying strains of birds, with high-energy rations, and the fact that more producers are keeping their birds in the laying pens for a year or more now.

Poultry experts agree that it's a complex problem, and the immediate step that poultrymen can take is to keep closer control on egg quality once the egg has been laid. "One thing is sure," according to H. L. Orr of O.A.C., "What we did three or five years ago in handling eggs, we can't get away with today."

WORK at the College has shown that the greatest breakdown in egg quality occurs in the first 48 hours after it is laid. Prof. Orr suggests that if eggs can be cooled fast once they are laid, much of the trouble can be prevented. He reports that the poultry department has discussed this with refrigeration manufacturers, and there is hope that a small unit, which will hold a few cases of eggs at a time, will be manufactured to meet the needs of small flock owners.

Prof. E. S. Snyder of O.A.C. reviewed the problem at the Ontario

Poultry Conference, and listed several factors known to lower egg quality. Several diseases, the most common of which is infectious bronchitis, affect it adversely. Drugs, such as the coccidiostat, when eaten by hens, can lower egg quality. But the inclusion in the diet of small amounts of antibiotics has been shown to increase egg production and efficiency without affecting quality. The breeding of birds is a factor, and so are methods of feeding, and the collection and handling of eggs.

Dr. Snyder suggests another reason for the present concern. It is that consumers are developing a keener recognition of quality in eggs. Furthermore, with an increase in white eggs, quality is more easily discerned in the candling.

Laying House Needs Some Attention

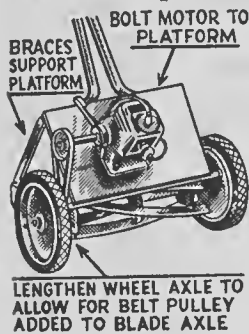
THIS is a good time to do some jobs around the laying house. You will want it to be in good condition for your pullets in the fall, which means that you want a tight house with good ventilation, dry litter and uncrowded conditions.

Irving Mork of the North Dakota Agricultural College suggests that you clean and disinfect the laying house before the birds are moved in. Check the ventilation to avoid a cold wet house. See that there is at least three inches of feeder space per bird. Provide a two by five-foot community-type nest for each 50 hens, or an individual nest for every four or five birds. Allow about eight inches roosting space per hen, with roosting poles about one foot apart. If you have one by two-inch wire mesh under the roosts, it will catch the eggs and allow the droppings to fall through.

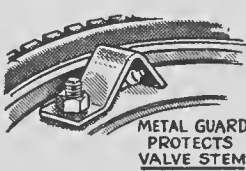
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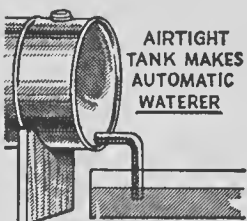
Power mower. To convert a hand mower to a power mower, first make a longer axle to allow room for a belt pulley between one wheel and the cutters. Make a platform about the same width as the cutters, and add braces on each side to bolt it to the mower. Secure a small motor to the platform, lining up the motor pulley with the pulley on the axle. Attach a belt to the two pulleys, and if everything is bolted securely, it should work well.—A.E.M., Sask. ✓



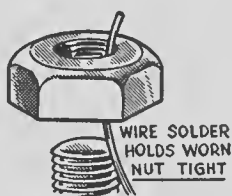
Valve protector. A piece of scrap metal bent over the valve stem of a tractor wheel will prevent the valve from being torn out when you are working in underbrush or rocky areas. Weld the end of a bolt to the rim of the wheel, pass the bracket over it and tighten it down with a nut. The scrap-metal bracket is readily moved out of the way when tire service is needed.—H.M., Pa. ✓



Automatic waterer. I take a drum, fill it with water and screw on the cap so that it is airtight. Then into the hole where a tap is inserted, I put the end of a pipe which leads down into the water trough. The pipe goes as deep into the trough as to maintain a correct water level, which is kept constant by the water pressure from the drum. This has to be filled from the top periodically. This automatic waterer can be used for cattle, hogs, and poultry.—D.S.M., Man. ✓



Holding Worn Nut. In an emergency, a nut with badly worn threads can still be used by tightening it on the bolt over a short length of wire solder. The solder is forced into the worn threads, where it takes up the slack and permits the nut to be tightened.—J.W., Alta. ✓



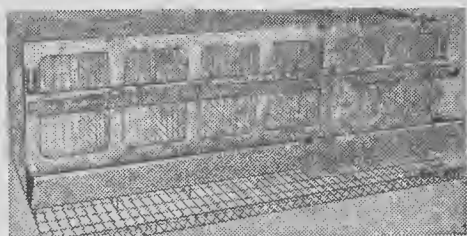
WHAT'S NEW



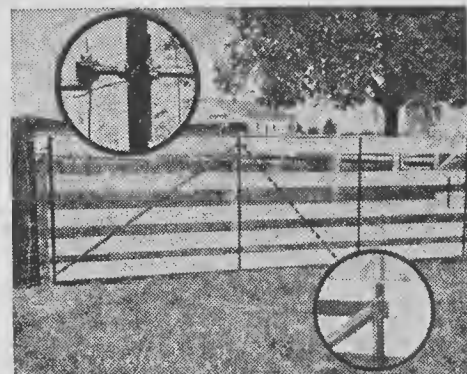
Shown here lifting the front end of a tractor, this lightweight lever puller is said to be suitable also for stretching fence wires, or for positioning and holding structural work for welding and general maintenance. There are models for half- and quarter-ton capacity. (The Harrington Co.) (182) ✓



This is a new two-inch pump which mounts directly onto the tractor PTO shaft. It can be used for irrigating from ponds or streams, or for transferring liquid fertilizers, filling or draining tanks and reservoirs, or when hauling water. Capacity is 110 gallons per minute. (Hypro Engineering Inc.) (183) ✓



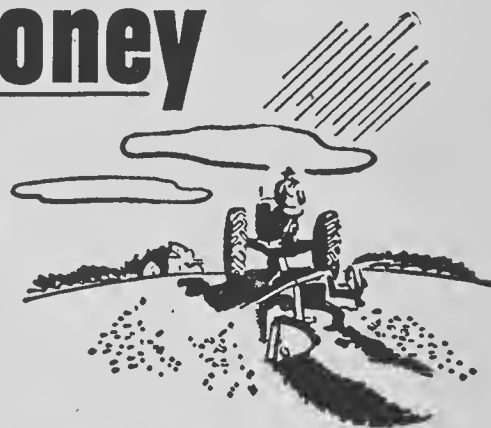
There is less stress on poultry and greater efficiency with this laying cage, it is claimed. Features are a strong steel front, larger bird openings, a front-mounted water trough, and a square-cornered cage bottom. Wide rolled edges on trough and a smooth egg tray lip eliminate cuts. (Storm Industries Inc.) (184) ✓



This farm gate kit has hinges which can be adjusted by an eyebolt and nut, and is said almost to eliminate sagging. Angle gate irons are designed to prevent rotting by permitting air to circulate under the steel. (Danuser Machine Co.) (185) ✓

For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg 2, giving the key number shown at the end of each item, as—(17).

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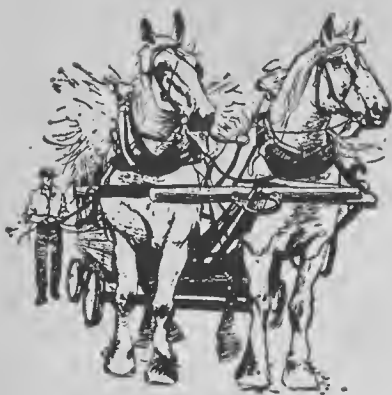
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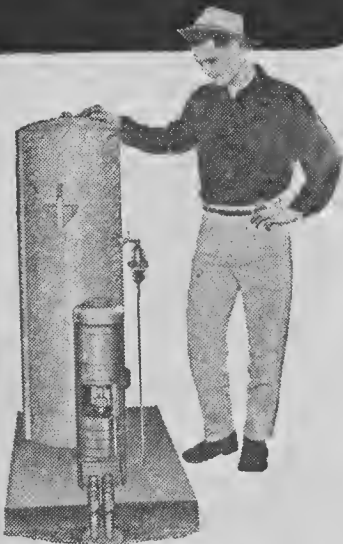
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Young People

On the farm and at home

Careers In Agriculture



Stan Medland, agricultural economist, flies to Hereford Roundup Congress.

Industry

(No. 2 in series)

FOR the "tremendous challenge" of it, Stan Medland is one agricultural graduate who wouldn't trade his work for any other. Employed in the agricultural research department of Swift Canadian Co., Stan's job is to interpret to farmers and ranchers the economics of livestock marketing. It's the kind of work that any clock-watcher, interested in an eight-hour day, should never make his goal in life. But for Stan, who grew up on a Saskatchewan farm, the long self-imposed course at school and university was well worthwhile.

He bunked above the brooderhouse at the University of Saskatchewan during his first year there, earning enough to pay his expenses. When war came he found himself landing with the Canadian army in France on D-Day. He came home to earn his agricultural degree in farm management, then a master's degree in agricultural economics at the University of British Columbia. An Agricultural Institute of Canada scholarship took him to Iowa State College for nearly two years where he studied marketing. For the next three years Stan served as lecturer at the University of British Columbia before joining Swifts.

Now, much of his time is spent in travelling across Canada. He organizes courses for ranchers and farm leaders in company plants, giving them a first hand picture of day-to-day workings in the meat packing industry, and providing them with an opportunity to make an intensive study of it through discussions with managers and department heads.

He spends a great deal of time in public work and says, "You must like people to enjoy it, and you must have a thorough understanding of farming too. You'll soon lose the confidence of farm people if you don't fully understand their problems. They ask hun-

dreds of down-to-earth questions and rightly expect a straightforward answer."

What do they ask?

What is the difference between heifers and steers once they are on the rail? What happens to hearts and livers of hogs? What about packers' profits? What value is hog grading?

Stan finds great diversity in his work. One day he may be talking to a farm group, the next, he may be writing a TV script for an appearance on it. He may be interviewed on radio, writing booklets on such subjects as bruising of livestock, or even trying his hand in the Hollywood business of movie production, preparing a film to explain current points in the industry.

Somehow, he steals time for outside organizations too, and presently he is national secretary of the Canadian Society of Animal Production, a group which includes many of the leaders in the scientific and practical end of livestock production.

Agriculture has provided Stan with the kind of work that becomes a thoroughly exciting part of each day. As he sees it, there is no end of opportunity in agricultural industry for a busy satisfying life. V

Under Open Skies

"FARM boys' and girls' camps give rural young people a chance to look at future opportunities within and without agriculture," says Dr. L. C. Paul, extension specialist, University of Saskatchewan. "They often get their first contact with the provincial university through these farm camps. After a camp session, many young people decide to attend university. Besides being fun, the camps give youths ideas to take away."

We decided to see for ourselves and paid a visit to the Manitoba Federation of Agriculture and Co-operation camp situated on the west shore of Clear Lake in Riding Mountain National Park.

The senior boys' camp of 65 boys, ages 13 to 15, had taken over the camp the day before and already were fitting smoothly into the carefully planned routine of sharing work and play. Some of the boys were swimming, receiving instruction and life-saving hints from instructor Jerry Greavstad; others as cook assistants for the day were helping prepare the noon meal; a third group, the board of directors of the newly organized consumer co-operative confectionery store, was holding a meeting with plenty of discussion.

As we walked around the camp grounds we noticed six well-built cabins, each located in an attractive area of trees. Camp director, Bob Douglas, told us that these cabins had been built entirely by farm boys who had attended the camp. "As the boys completed each cabin, they gave it a name associated with the co-opera-

tive movement," he said. There was Kagawa cabin, named for the man who organized co-operatives in north Tokyo; Coady cabin to honor Dr. Coady who started fishermen's co-operatives in the Maritimes; Rochdale cabin commemorating the place where a group of English weavers began the first co-operative movement; Ransom cabin named for F. W. Ransom who served with the co-operative movement for almost half a century; Wilton cabin honoring Jack Wilton, board member of the Co-op Union of Canada, and Hannam cabin, named for Dr. H. H. Hannam, president of Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

We enjoyed a hearty meal of beef stew, boiled potatoes, chocolate pudding and tea served by the boys who also handled the clean-up job. Then we walked over to the fine pavilion recently constructed by the boys under the supervision of an experienced carpenter. It is equipped with a good stage and has a seating capacity of 500. Its quonset-type roof makes it ideal for indoor games and its massive stone fireplace provides warmth and cheer on rainy days.

We shopped at the co-operative store which had been set up in the pavilion with president Keith Carey, Boissevain; secretary Dennis Nordman, and manager Allan Olliver, both from Cypress River; assistant manager, Cliff Wilde, Brunkild and a board of ten directors. The board had set a maximum spending of 25 cents per day in order to equalize



Senior farm boys enjoy swimming and diving class at the Clear Lake camp.

spending allowances of all boys and also to encourage saving for the boat trip across the lake to Wasagamung townsite.

While the camp had its daily hour rest period, Joan Van Dreht, handicraft instructor, showed us samples of articles which would be made at camp—aluminium coasters of individual designs, picture wallets made from exposed film, foam rubber slippers and basketry. Discussions with counsellors on choosing a career, farming and business, a study of the co-operative movement, music appreciation, instruction and competitions in public speaking, swimming tests as well as a full program of sports round out a very complete two weeks of fun, instruction and practical endeavor. More than 500 campers will use the camp facilities this season.

Farm camps give farm families a much needed holiday as well as an opportunity for fellowship and discussion. V

Science And the Farm

Housefly control has been attained through the use of chemicals which prevent the female from laying eggs. The discovery was made by K. R. S. Ascher, Medical Research Laboratories, Israel Defence Forces, Israel. He found that, by applying two fluorocarbon insecticides to the legs of the housefly, egg-laying was stopped. Various methods of exposing the flies to the chemicals proved to be effective in producing either no, very low or negligible egg-laying during their lifetime. An analysis of females exposed to the chemicals showed that the ovaries had developed normally and contained eggs. This research would appear to hold promise that man can win the fight against these bothersome, disease-carrying insects. ✓

Gibberellic acid promises to become a common household and farmyard word, if the preliminary results of scientific studies can be taken as an indication of its potential value. Generally, gibberellic acid has been credited with not only stimulating plant growth, but causing earlier flowering, faster germination and speedier maturing of seed. Specifically, here are a few samples of what gibberellic acid has been found to do: increase the number of tobacco leaves; stimulate grass growth in its slow-growth season; create longer and stronger cotton fibres; cause significant increases in both the fresh weight and dry matter of celery; cause earlier heading of broccoli; cause some tree seedlings to grow faster; create giant poinsettias, geraniums, chrysanthemums and roses; and break the dormancy of wild oat seeds. As wonderful as the drug seems, however, scientists feel they cannot stress strongly enough the fact that much more laboratory, greenhouse and field testing is needed before it can be used widely and effectively by the nation's farmers. ✓

Chemical thinners for fruit trees have resulted in larger size and better looking fruit, and has reduced the cost of thinning materially. U.S.D.A. horticulturists report that the use of dinitro compounds and hormone-type sprays have led to more uniform crops, because they eliminate the "on" and "off" years of heavy and light fruiting. An additional advantage to the grower is the comparatively low cost of spray thinning. Spray applications cost from \$5 to \$6 per acre as

compared with hand thinning costs of from \$75 to \$200 per acre. While the U.S.D.A. scientists warn that more research is necessary to learn how the chemicals work, they think they are worthwhile additions to the large number of sprays already being used by farmers. ✓

The spotted alfalfa aphid may soon become less of a pest in North America, as the result of tests now under way at the University of Wisconsin. An insecticide known as phosdrin, which is highly effective in fighting this pest, has been tested for its effect on cattle which eat forage treated with it. The Wisconsin workers conducted the tests with 14 milking cows for three months, giving various amounts of phosdrin in the feed daily. Milk, blood and fat tissues of these cows were inspected periodically and, at the end of the trial, meat cuts were analyzed to determine if any insecticide appeared as residue. The phosdrin neither hurt the animals nor made their products dangerous for human consumption. ✓

Another method of combatting soil erosion is under investigation in the Netherlands. It consists of spraying sandy soil with special machines using a by-product of potato flour. The mixture is said to combine with the upper layer of soil to form a thin crust which is strong enough to resist wind. Since it is soluble in water, the number of sprayings per season depends on the rainfall. This method may be used in Holland for asparagus beds, freshly planted potato plots, fine seed crops and to prevent the blowing away of fertilizer. Research is going on into its application for other crops. ✓

Wheat silage made from a crop beginning to turn yellow was unacceptable, whether treated or untreated, while that made from immature wheat was highly acceptable. These results were reported recently by the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio. Cattle feeding trials with untreated, corn-treated, molasses-treated, and sulphur dioxide-treated wheat silage, made from wheat stalks beginning to turn yellow, were unsatisfactory. When these various types of wheat silage were fed to 12 cows in divided mangers, along with untreated meadow-crop silage, the cows overwhelmingly preferred the meadow-crop silage. However, similar feeding trials with silage made from wheat at the stage of growth when the seed head was just beginning to emerge between the topmost leaves, gave quite different results. Three cows in a period of four days ate only 127.6 pounds of wilted meadow-crop silage as against 259.7 pounds of the early cut wheat silage. Each cow preferred the wheat silage although the meadow-crop silage had been well accepted in previous daily feeding practice. That the wheat crop yields much less when cut at the immature stage is well known. However, the wisdom of doing so, if silage is to be made, should not be doubted, because silage made from wheat that is starting to ripen is not useful. ✓



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17

Earlier Weaning A Shortcut to Profits



[Culde photo]
Preston Hooker of Ormstown, Que., is using the early weaning ration now.

NUTRITIONIST Dr. E. W. Crampton and his co-workers at Macdonald College, Quebec, have come up with a pig ration that relieves sows of the most burdensome part of litter-raising. It's an early weaning ration, permitting pigs to be weaned as early as ten days old. It is past the experimental stage, and is coming into general use now.

In the Macdonald College herd, just about every litter is being weaned early, and the resulting pigs are just as sturdy as, or even sturdier than, similar pigs weaned at the normal eight to ten weeks.

At least one feed company is selling the ration commercially; and Preston Hooker, Yorkshire breeder and commercial swine producer at Ormstown, Quebec, is one of those who are using it with success.

He has weaned pigs as young as 12 days old, and figures that they weigh just as much or more by ten weeks, as if they had been allowed to nurse right through.

"Why bother with early weaning?" we asked Mr. Hooker. He gave us several reasons.

"In times of good hog prices, I can produce more pigs per year. By weaning at two weeks, the sow can be re-bred again in a few days, while if she nurses right through, she may lose weight and fail to become pregnant for several weeks after finally weaning her litter."

If the sow is old, and you plan to ship her to market after raising that litter, Hooker's argument is: "Why let her milk away all her flesh when you will have to put it back onto her after weaning? It's cheaper to wean the pigs while the sow is still in fair condition."

He says the idea can pay off where scours are a problem, too. In winter-time, he admits that this disease is likely to erupt, despite the best of rations. The critical time seems to be at about three weeks of age, and he has found that if pigs are weaned just before that period, they are less likely to contract the disease.

He lists one other credit that can be chalked up by purebred breeders. Sows must be approaching farrow-

ing if they are to look their best in the showring. So after farrowing, if the pigs are weaned quickly, the sow can be bred again in a few days, and made ready faster for the next fair.

This swine man has weaned, without trouble, at least 20 litters, by this method, during the past 12 months. He removes the pigs from the sow when they are about two weeks old, and puts water and dry "early weaning" ration in front of them. They will starve for 24 hours, and then begin to nibble. By the end of the week, though they will not have gained weight, they will be thriving again and will go through to eight or ten weeks on the same ration. Now they can be changed to a pig starter without a setback.

Mr. Hooker has tried the system on his own farm, and because he also has sows spotted through the country with local farmers, he has tried it on some of these farms as well, with equal success.

Biggest handicap of the system is the high cost of the ration, which may run, commercially, to nearly \$10 per cwt. Main element of cost is the skim-milk powder which makes up about 37 per cent of the formula now recommended by Macdonald College. To overcome this, Dr. Crampton and staff are working hard to find an adequate replacement. They hope that a lower-protein ration, in which the milk is replaced by meat meal, may be developed to do an equally good job.

Here is the ration commonly used now: Wheat, 10 lbs; oat groats, 15 lbs.; soybean oilmeal, 10 lbs.; fishmeal, 10 lbs.; brewers' yeast, 5 lbs.; skimmilk powder, 37 lbs.; V.M.A. supplement, 3 lbs.; cane molasses, 10 lbs. V

400 Acres Of Alfalfa

GROW 400 acres of alfalfa and you'll likely know something about the crop. Allan Lindsay, of Ottawa Valley Grain Products, Renfrew, Ontario, grows that acreage for his alfalfa meal business, and in securing high yields on his heavy clay soil, has picked up some sound ideas on this best-of-all hay crops.

First of all, he says, alfalfa land must be well-drained. "We drain every field systematically."

The land must be worked right, too. "Clay can go tough, if it is worked at the wrong time."

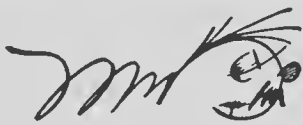
"Fertility is the next factor, and we top dress with ammophos (11-48-0) and 60 per cent potash, at about 100 pounds to the acre." This usually goes on in early September.

He seeds his fields to pure alfalfa, at about 15 pounds per acre, with a Brilliant seeder, using a nurse crop at about 11½ bushels per acre.

Then he leaves that field down about three years, and he expects to get about three cuts of alfalfa each season for the dehydrating drums. In addition, he buys a large acreage of alfalfa as it stands in the fields. V



by M. W. Finkenbinder



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I Tried to Do The Right Thing

by F. COMMERINGER

I AM an old farmer living on a homestead in western Saskatchewan with my wife Emma and my son Heinrich, or Henri, as the people around here call him. I don't read much any more because my eyesight is poor, but Henri never fails to look at the papers when they come in. He does most of the letter writing for me, too, except at Christmas time, when I sign my name to some cards.

One evening, late last fall, Henri told me he wanted to send away for a correspondence course in welding, and that he needed the money for it. I didn't think much of the idea, so I said to him, "Son, we only have an old soldering iron out there in the garage. You can't practice with a thing like that." That stopped him some, but later he came back again. "It says here in the paper that 40,000 farmers have left the farm. I can't see any reason why I should stay here any longer."

I didn't like him saying that. We were not doing too badly; except of course, that we lose a few head of cattle every winter, the chicken combs freeze the first cold night (with the result that we are without eggs until spring) and the pigs take erysipelas every time we have a big litter. However, we always manage to save a few, and later, when they are almost ready to sell, they somehow manage to borrow the nose of the bull and die. Otherwise we have it good! Just the same, I could not talk him out of the welding course.

A few days later he told me "right out" that if I wouldn't let him have the money, he'd quit the farm. Apparently he now wanted to go to Vancouver and enroll at a trade training institute to learn welding. I know when to "lay off" stalling and give in, so I told him that if he thought he could do better at welding, I would not stand in his way and even help him. He then wrote to Vancouver and told them that he was coming. A few days later I drove him into town to catch the train, and gave him \$300. It was the saddest day in my life. I had been hailed out two years hand running. I missed the money badly, and I also missed the kid. The wife often takes cranky spells, and I had nobody left at home to talk to. But I always try to do the right thing. A father is like that.

A WEEK or so later Henri wrote and said he had a fine trip to Vancouver. The mountains there were much better than anything we had out here. He was sure that the turning point in his life had come, but he needed more money. He met somebody on the train who told him he would have to pass a stiff entrance examination, one that few could pass without a thorough preparation for it. He had to pay \$200 for the lessons. His teacher had been real nice to him, and had helped him to find a room in a private home, where everything was just "dandy."

I, of course, was having trouble selling my wheat. I was getting worried just a bit, but I sent him the money anyway. It only lasted for about two weeks, because he wrote again. He said that he had lost his

tutor. His landlady had given him the news that the teacher had been killed in a car accident. When he learned of this, he had gone to the training institute to see if he couldn't be enrolled with what he knew, but there was no chance. There were already too many boys enrolled. The institute couldn't take him. He would have to wait for quite a while.

Then he started looking for a job, but couldn't find one. There were no

openings until spring. What could I do? You can't let your only son down, so I went into the bank and borrowed another \$100. With it I bought a ticket at the station, and a money order at the post office, mailing them to him. This whole business was beginning to get on my nerves. Not so with Emma. She was sore all the time anyway. By Christmas Henri was home, and we were as happy again as ever. But it came high. There just

wasn't the money to buy very many presents because we had spent it all on welding. One day after New Year's, when I was in town, the welder there met me on the street and asked me into the Chinaman's for a cup of coffee. We talked for a while, and then he asked me, "How come, Sam, that you are so nice and friendly to me lately? You used to be so hard to please before." I never told him.



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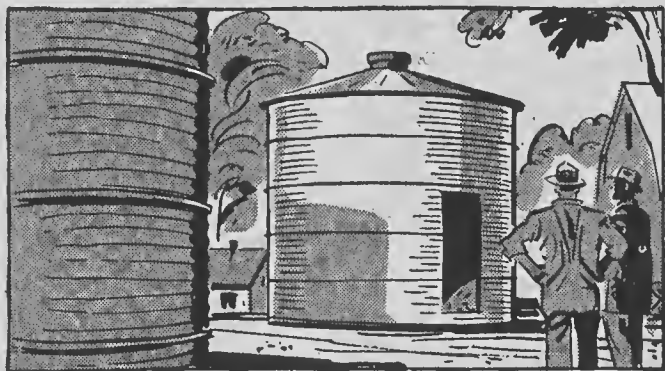
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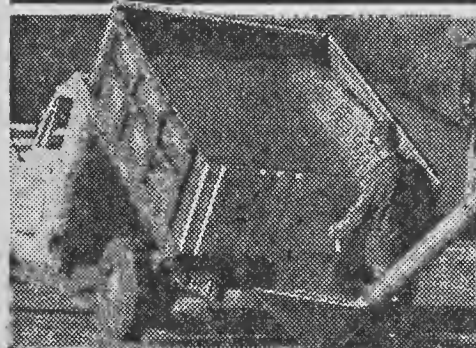
OIL and AGRICULTURE

by C. V. FAULKNER

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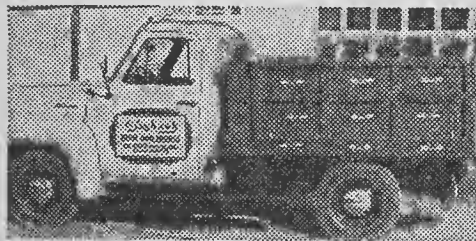
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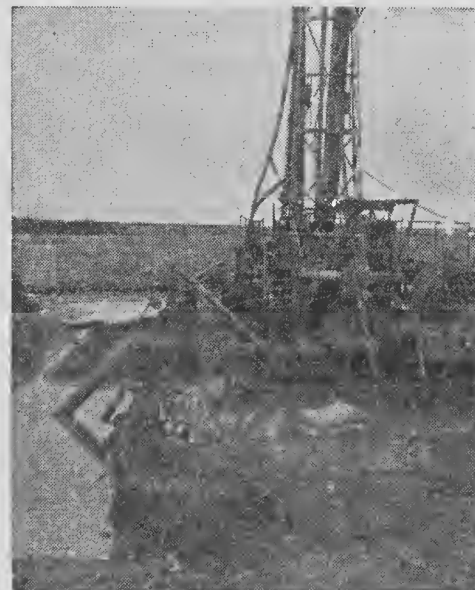
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ACROSS the western prairies, oil derricks, storage tanks, and rocking-beam pumps are becoming as familiar as barns, silos, and grain elevators. Derricks and bustling crews are the first to appear in any new field. Then, when oil has been found, these lofty structures are replaced by the less impressive "Christmas tree," which is a series of valves to regulate natural pressure flow. When this pressure isn't enough to bring the oil to the surface, a rocking-beam pump is installed, a picturesque, plodding device which, from a distance, looks like an old man drawing water from the farmyard pump. It all adds up to a profusion of shiny metal equipment mushrooming among the grain and forage fields of the west.

The coming of oil has meant a great change in the economies of the provinces, and both an economic and social change to the man closest to this development, the prairie farmer. Some who held oil rights to their land have become wealthy; others have received a moderate, but steady income because of oil wells located on their land; and still others (the majority) have received no direct financial benefits whatever. Some in this last group welcome the booming oil



This oil drilling rig was set up on farm land near Oak Lake in Manitoba.

industry about as much as they'd welcome a grasshopper plague. Wages have been knocked sky high, and farm help is almost impossible to come by.

But there are many intangible benefits from an oil boom, which affect all farmers, although these might not appear at first glance. Oil drilling sites have to be serviced by a network of good roads, and these roads have to be kept open. Many farm families living off the main routes now roll into town the year round, on roads built, or brought up to standard, because of some nearby oil field. Also, of course, new money and new people, brought into the country by the oil boom, have greatly expanded the farmer's home market.

WITH the rapid increase in farm mechanization, oil itself has become a vital factor in the farm economy. It provides fuel and lubrication for the farmer's tractor, combine, and forage harvester, as well as for



The rocking-beam pump, like this one on a farm south of Virden, Manitoba, is needed when the natural pressure cannot bring the oil to the surface.

his truck and family car. The mode of life of the farm family is changing rapidly, because the gasoline-driven automobile has made the shopping center and the theatre almost as available to them as to their city cousins.

Oil heating devices are making farm life easier by eliminating the coal bucket and wood pile, which used to take so much effort and time. In many cases, propane gas—a by-product of the oil industry—heats the home, cooks the food, and even operates a refrigerator. Other oil-heating devices are adding to farm efficiency through hay and grain driers, brooders, and incubators, where greater efficiency means increased profits.

Out in the field, petroleum-based weed and insect killers are increasing yields and reducing labor requirements. The oil bases in these products not only keep the chemicals in solution, but they help the spray to cover plants more thoroughly. Some oil products themselves are effective weed and insect killers. For example, a special oil preparation is used as a weed killer for carrots, and another for insect control on fruit trees.

Oil production in Canada is now taking care of 60 per cent of the nation's needs, as compared to less than ten per cent only ten years ago. Since 1946, refinery capacity in Canada has more than doubled, while on the prairies, the increase has been four-fold. Nearness to the sources of

supply has resulted in further savings to the western farmer, because he is able to get his oil and gasoline cheaper than he ordinarily would if these products had to be shipped in from the outside.

Because of their distance from major external markets, prairie crude oil producers have to accept a less favorable price for their product than similar producers in the United States. Prairie consumers reap the benefit of this in lower prices. As farm-mechanization increases, and more people settle in the West, the local market for petroleum products will increase. This will benefit oil consumer and producer alike.

To get the oil farmer's viewpoint on the changes wrought by the petroleum industry, The Country Guide called on John and Mamie Morton of Joffre, a few miles east of Red Deer, Alberta. The Mortons have a 1,600-acre grain and cattle farm right in the heart of the Joffre field. A section-and-a-half of this is oil producing; and the discovery well for that field is only a short distance from the house.

"Anything that develops this country will benefit farmers in the long run," John stated. "In fact"—and his eyes twinkled at this—"having the oil in this district has been a regular business course for the lot of us. It's smartened us up."



John Morton, of Joffre, Alberta, feels that oil development has been good for his area, even though it's almost impossible to obtain farm help now.

Safflower Alternative to Wheat

ON May 6, Ned Robinson of Sidney, Nebraska, and Burd Barnhill of Chinook, Montana, landed in Medicine Hat, Alberta, with some sacks of safflower seed. They hoped to persuade a few local farmers to plant some safflower for experimental purposes. At the suggestion of the district agriculturist they broadcast over the radio a request for volunteers, at 12:30 p.m. and again at 3:30 p.m. Then came the deluge! About 36 hours later they had to give up for lack of seed. In that time 8,400

acres had been pledged for the new crop.

Safflower would seem to be an answer to the dryland farmer's prayer, especially one who has two or three years' supply of grain still on the farm.

A desert plant, of the thistle family, the safflower was developed by the University of Nebraska to provide a cash crop for the low-humidity areas of the high plains. Safflower seed is processed to produce safflower oil, considered by many to be superior to linseed and soybean oil for most industrial uses. A useful by-product is safflower meal, which is sold as a vegetable protein feed for livestock.

Safflowers are hardy annual plants with taproots extending to a depth of as much as eight feet, which allows them to draw moisture and nutrients stored at those lower soil levels. Planted in early spring, the seed will germinate at relatively cool temperatures (40°F.). Mature plants have about the same frost tolerance as spring barley or oats, being able to stand up under 15 degrees of frost.

Although the safflower is considered drought resistant, it does require a certain amount of moisture (12 to 16 inches) to give a good crop. Where the land has a stored moisture content of about four to six inches, an additional eight to ten inches of rainfall will do the trick. It is also fairly tolerant of hail, and will put out new branches and produce a crop, even when badly damaged.

Harvesting safflowers is done with an ordinary grain combine, although the concaves must be lowered to pre-



[Guide photo

Spence Goddard, assistant D.A., Medicine Hat, Alta., holds a safflower plant.

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vent crushing or grinding of the seed. The plant produces a hard, brittle straw, which tends to break easily and fall through straw racks, if over-threshed, but this can be overcome easily if the combine is set properly.

Just as the soybean is a vegetable oil crop of the corn belt, the safflower can assume this vital role in the semi-arid regions where the choice of crops is limited. When the latter is planted on land that gives satisfactory yields of grain, it will produce from 700 to

1,400 pounds of seed per acre. A yield of 800 pounds of seed will have an oil content of about 240 pounds.

Although the safflower is new to farmers in southeastern Alberta, it has been under test at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm for several years, and cerealists there feel that it will prove successful for the drier areas. There's not much doubt about that, if it offers an alternative to wheat as a cash crop and provide a valuable livestock feed at the same time. V

Home Editor Retires



Miss Amy J. Roe.

RETIREMENT for some is a release from duties that have ceased to be interesting. Retirement for Amy J. Roe, Home Editor of The Country Guide, is a wrenching loose of roots that are deep in the field of agricultural writing.

Miss Roe retires this month, bowing to her Company's ruling that its employees begin fairly early in life to enjoy leisure which a pension plan in part makes possible. For almost 40 years she has been an important figure in these offices, arriving in 1918 to be the first paid secretary of the Women's Section of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, three years later becoming Home Editor for The Guide. Since that date she has attempted, faithfully and fearlessly, to make Home Department writing helpful to farm women. Much of her own free time was given over to attending meetings or reading material which might be of interest to Guide readers.

From the mid-1920's to 1945 she was a member of the Manitoba Welfare Supervision Board, advisory to the attorney-general. Later the board's duties were taken over by the newly formed Department of Public Health and Welfare. She has been a frequent visitor at conferences of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, and in 1947 was invited to speak on rural housing at their gathering in Halifax. In 1950 Miss Roe travelled to Copenhagen, Denmark, to the international conference of the Associated Country Women of the World, and in 1953 attended their meeting in Toronto.

Her interest in the improvement of rural housing conditions was recognized by Premier D. L. Campbell who in 1945 appointed her to the Manitoba Rural Housing Committee. This group later added representatives from Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, and the Canada Department of Agriculture, and as the Prairie Rural Housing Committee prepared literature and plans for the remodeling or construction of farm houses and community centers. Miss Roe was chairman of this group for two years.

Of her many auxiliary duties while with The Guide, one of the most pleasant was her work as Fiction Editor. A member of the Canadian Authors Association and the Canadian Women's Press Club, she has met many Canadian writers and artists, and been generous in encouragement of those who sought her advice.

"Home" to Miss Roe has always been the district of Arden, in north-central Manitoba, where she was born. However, she did not reside there long, attending high school in Portage la Prairie, then going out to teach school elsewhere in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. While with The Guide she travelled the breadth of Canada many times.

At present Miss Roe is holidaying in eastern Canada, planning on visiting Ontario, the Maritime Provinces and Quebec. She will now have opportunities to browse leisurely around spots which she has, during her work years, noted to be of special interest and delight. She hopes to be in Ottawa during the week when the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada holds its first national convention.

Thus it is seen that even in her retirement Amy Roe cannot stay long parted from associations she has known in the past. Over the years, she and country women, first in the West and then in all Canada, developed great respect and admiration for each other. This is a friendship that will bloom afresh as she travels further through the countryside.

Readers and friends throughout Canada, we are sure, will want to join the publishers of The Country Guide both in paying tribute to Miss Roe for her contributions to rural living, and in wishing her many happy years of retirement from regular employment. V

THE *Country* GUIDE

Home and Family



[National Film Board Photo.]

AUGUST days are memory days. Many dusty ways have been traversed. Many childhood dreams have been fulfilled. Many new horizons are yet to be conquered. Somehow, though, on this August day, as old Mother Nature's summer is changing into fall, my memories are of a humble place—my childhood home.

Home and family are the backbone of our nation. The vital and contributing roots that nourish all that is good and worthwhile are exemplified by the home and family.

Around the dining table, gathered at the piano—anywhere within the family circle, the living substance of a nation is born, nourished and spread around the earth. Disrupt this family spirit and there would be chaos in the world.

Memories of home—family relationships deep and rich. This harmony calls for some deliberate thought and action.

For this there are simple, yet often neglected, resources at our command. One is to note and bring action on little things that bring pleasure to another person. One calculated act of kindness may change the mood of a house in an instant.

Families are held together by the things they jointly care about, dream about, plan for, and do with each other. Remember the practice of reading aloud? It is a good custom, but sadly overlooked in the clock-controlled rush of life today. We ought not to overlook the spur it gives to fellowship, the sense of renewing things in common.

It is a good rule to face difficulties as they arise, lest they grow and become rooted in our emotions. It is strange to talk about the principles in international life and at the same time to forget principles in dealing with our families. We urge the rights of minorities and sometimes ignore the rights of children.

Besides the principle of respecting the rights of others, the principle of tolerance will settle many of our difficulties for us. Only a practiced habit of tolerance sprinkled with forgiveness will keep us from making impossible demands.

The happy environment of the family stays with us. To keep the family spirit always harmonious requires wisdom and tact. For this, religion offers us a uniting and deepening power. The atmosphere of such devotions as grace at meals, or prayers at bedtime is discouraging to grudges or family rifts; it inspires understanding, reconciliation and forbearance.

To preserve peace and harmony in the home is surely worth some conscious effort. A great nation is a nation of happy working families! So in these August days of memories, let us all do what we can to preserve such a family and such a nation. In the words of Edgar A. Guest,

"It takes a heap o' livin' in a house to make it home."

by GLENORA PEARCE.

What you should know about Your Vacuum Cleaner

Here are many useful hints about purchasing, operating and caring for these modern, labor-saving household helpers

by PHYLLIS A. THOMSON

HAVE you ever stopped to realize that you may spend 60 to 80 hours every week working in your home? Chances are you spend even more time if you have young children. Surprisingly, many of these hours are needed to keep your house clean. Modern machinery and scientific methods make farming easier and more effective for your husband. Modern, effective equipment is available to help you develop a systematic cleaning routine to make your home-making easier.

In the Old Testament, the Prophet Isaiah says of the destruction of Jerusalem, "I will sweep it with the broom of destruction." Today, many Canadian housewives are still using the broom as the only device for cleaning floors and rugs. Modern homemakers of the 19th century were justly proud of their new carpet sweepers.

While the broom and carpet sweeper have a place in today's home-making, there is the electric vacuum cleaner to add to this equipment. Housewives will find that an electric vacuum cleaner can be a near-essential house-cleaning tool.

There are several types and many makes of vacuum cleaners on the market from which to choose. The

facturers boast that an entire room can be cleaned without moving the machine. It does this either by a swivel top which allows the hose to "follow you around," or a hose that is so constructed that it can stretch to twice its normal length and thus encompass the room. Other models have small plastic wheels under the machine, enabling the vacuum to literally "glide" along the floor. Also featured by the canister machine is a special rug cleaning attachment, which, because of its particular construction, is able to pick up surface litter, such as lint and dust, and get more of the "dangerous dirt" hidden in the rug pile. This hidden dirt is hard on rugs and is one source of dust films that gather on furniture and other above-the-floor surfaces.

Other features of this type are large throw-away bags, interlocking attachments, sustained cleaning power and quiet operation. On some models, a suction regulator is featured. This means that you can regulate the machine to clean fine fabrics, such as lace curtains, which would otherwise tear with the strong suction provided by the machine's one horsepower motor.

The other suction cleaner, which has been on the market for some time, is the *cylinder, or horizontal tank-type*, cleaner. Cylinders draw air in at the top and exhaust it at the bottom, or vice versa. As in the canister model, this machine has the motor, fan and supplementary filter pads enclosed within the cylinder. All cleaning by this machine is done by powerful suction, supplemented by brushes in the rug cleaning nozzle and in some of the other tools.

The second general type is the upright or motor-driven *agitator* vacuum. It has been found that this cleaner is by far the most satisfactory for cleaning rugs and carpets. Whereas the other two types clean primarily by suction, this machine cleans by a combination of suction, sweeping and carpet vibration. Hence, the heavy dirt, such as sand and grit, which does so much damage to carpets, is lifted right out of the rug with the agitation of the cleaner.

YOU will find that vacuum cleaners are more streamlined than ever this year. This is not only for the sake of appearance. The machines are made of lighter material for easier handling, and of more durable material to ensure a longer life. Some manufacturers are featuring a new type of brush attachment, with slanted horsehair bristles that make cleaning more efficient, as well as more simple. Brushes are designed to get under the new low furniture, saving time and energy.



Your home—every home—can remain lovely and inviting if it is kept fresh and sparkling by regular cleaning with effective selected cleaning equipment.

A third type, the *hand cleaner*, is really a miniature version of the motor-driven brush vacuum, but features an outside filter bag. Some portable hand vacuums may be set into a long-handled frame for use as an electric carpet sweeper. Another small cleaner, sometimes called an *electric broom*, is, in effect, a vertical tank type, because it cleans by suction and has neither motor-driven brush, nor outside filter bag. This small-type cleaner is most useful as an auxiliary cleaner to the upright model, and can be used for general household cleaning, or for older people who wish a lighter machine. It is also excellent for cleaning cars, because in most models, the cleaner can be strapped over the shoulder and carried easily from one place to another.

To sum up, the upright vacuum has been found the most efficient cleaner for rugs, particularly those with a deep pile such as the British-India carpet. Cleaning attachments are available with this machine but are slightly awkward to attach and

use. However, they function efficiently and clean well. For general household cleaning, one of two types may be used—either the canister, or cylinder type. The canister is superior in some models to the cylinder, in that it has greater suction because of a stronger motor, and, with the special rug nozzle, it is able to loosen dirt from rugs more effectively. The hand type has been found to be a satisfactory auxiliary cleaner, or a general cleaner on a lighter and less powerful scale.

Now that the main types of cleaners have been discussed, just exactly what is the function of a vacuum cleaner? The original function was to remove dirt from floor coverings. This is still one of its most important jobs.

However, one of the most important factors to the health and well-being of a homemaker is to have a clean, orderly home. Science has done much to relieve the modern housekeeper of the drudgery of house cleaning. More than any other tool developed, the vacuum cleaner has eased the way in



Canister type. Cleaning done by powerful suction, supplemented by brushes.

important thing is to select one which will serve you most efficiently. What type will that be?

BASICALLY there are three cleaning principles which may be used, singly or in combination, in a vacuum cleaner: suction, sweeping and agitation. Suction cleaners may be in different sizes and shapes, but if suction is the predominant cleaning principle used to remove dirt, it is defined as a suction cleaner. Cylinder and canister machines, the two main suction cleaners, operate in much the same manner.

The newest cleaner, the *canister*, is increasing in popularity. Some manu-

BUYING POINTS FOR VACUUM CLEANERS

- Check for a relatively quiet motor with sealed-in mechanism that does not require oiling.
- Check the amount of suction or airflow.
- Check the ease of removing the dirt from the cleaner.
- Check the attachments to be sure they meet your specific needs.
- Check to make sure that service and replacement parts are available.
- Check to make sure that the cleaner is made by a reliable, established manufacturer, who will stand behind it.
- If you buy it, be sure to save your guarantee!

the daily job of keeping the house clean. By conserving energy, as well as removing germ-carrying dust, the vacuum has made a definite contribution to health.

CARPET dirt, as it is called, is comprised of four general types of material. Surface litter such as hair, threads and ravellings, light clinging dust and dirt, a heavier type of dirt composed of fine sand, limestone, clay, and a sticky substance of asphalt, grease and various kinds of fats and oils. As mentioned previously, the surface litter and light clinging dust is easily "eaten up" by the straight suction of either cylinder or canister vacuum. However, the heavier sand particles which require a shaking action provided only by the upright cleaner at the present time, will eventually ruin rugs if not removed.

Aside from cleaning rugs, the vacuum cleaner must serve to keep the entire house in tip-top shape — cleaning walls and ceilings, venetian blinds, woodwork, floors, furniture, wood surfaces, draperies, upholstery, mattresses, to mention a few. The floor brush is designed to take care of all types of flooring—linoleum, tile, and wood floors. This brush removes dust, dirt, crumbs, ashes, hair, sugar and other loose particles, on all hard-surface floors. The dusting brush quickly dusts carved furniture, table tops, shelves with nick-nacks, books, lamps and shades, lighting fixtures, venetian blinds, wicker furniture, draperies, tapestries and mattresses. It can be used on clothing and furs, too. The crevice attachment is used to clean hard-to-get-to crevices in upholstered furniture, the edges of wall-to-wall carpeting, around baseboards, radiators, dresser drawers and spaces between kitchen equipment.

Some models can be adapted easily to use as a blower. They can be used to blow dirt out of awkward areas, musty closets and chests, to fluff pillows and mattresses. The sprayer attachment is ideal for dyeing, or tinting, articles too large for the washing machine, for painting new unpainted furniture and repainting old, including wicker and baby furniture.

Some cleaners are equipped with a container attachment designed especially for use with crystals of ant moth compounds. Optional equipment on some models are power polishers, which can be used on linoleum, cement, tile or hardwood floors, or on walls and linoleum-covered table tops. Buffing wheels for polishing pads are other optional equipment.

BEFORE you buy, try different models on various surfaces and in several locations in your home. A demonstration will prove the versatility of a vacuum cleaner, but you must decide which type is most convenient for you and easiest to lift and carry. Storage space available for a vacuum cleaner and attachments may influence your choice.

When you buy your new vacuum cleaner, it is wise to select a cleaner manufactured by a reputable company. Also make a check to find out the location of the nearest authorized service department that is maintained by the company from which you plan to buy your cleaner. They will be most interested in seeing that your cleaner gives perfect satisfaction, and they will be equipped, therefore, to

give quick and reliable service. Usually, they will be the only source of genuine repair parts made especially to fit your cleaner. Ignore "trick" demonstrations.

Equally as important as selecting the right vacuum cleaner is the care you give the machine. Read the manufacturer's instructions carefully and follow his suggestions. In addition, there are five parts of the machine which require special attention — the belt, bag, brush, attachments and cord.

The belt on an upright model makes the brush roll revolve. Check the tension of the belt frequently and replace when needed, to keep the cleaner at top operating efficiency. Keep the dirt container clean by emptying the bag after each cleaning. If the pores of fabric become clogged, turn the bag inside out and brush it thoroughly. Never wash the cleaner bag. If the cleaner has disposable bags, you will never have to clean the fabric of the cleaner.

Clean attachment brushes and wipe off attachments after each use, and before storing. Keep attachments handy in the storage kit. Wind the cord loosely, when storing the cleaner, because tension may cause the fine wires inside the cord to break. Avoid running the cleaner over the cord, or stepping on it. It's a good practice to keep the cord free from kinks and knots and to disconnect the cord always, by grasping the plug at the outlet, rather than by pulling on the cord.

To get complete satisfaction from your cleaner, use all the facilities it provides, and operate and care for it as directed in the manufacturer's instruction book. Your electric cleaner will make the task of cleaning easier and more effective.

Thrifty Thoughts

If you like the luxury of bath salts but think they are expensive to buy, you may make your own. Dainty and fragrant bath salts can be made at home quite easily and inexpensively.

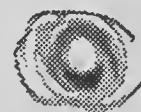
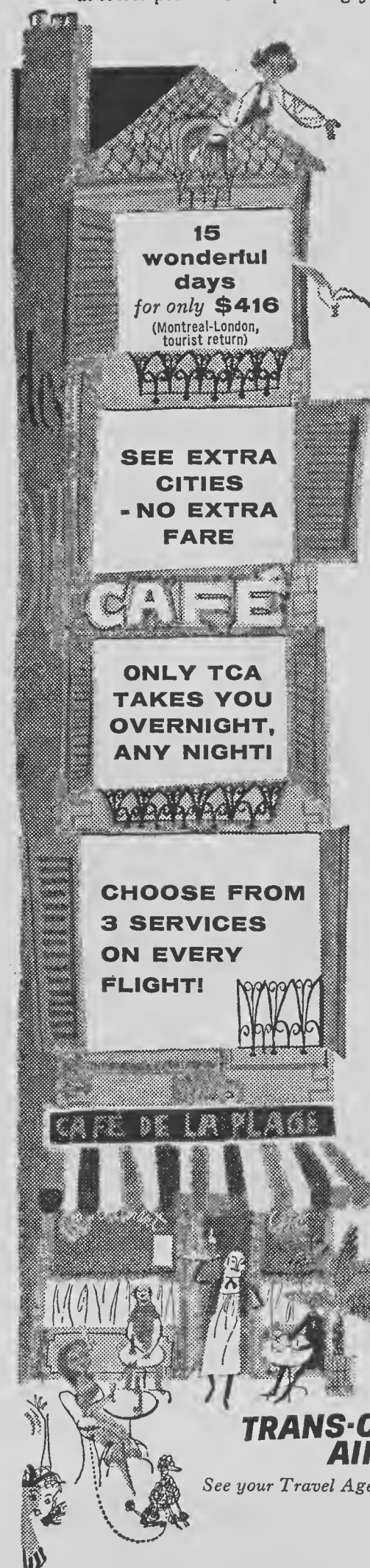
Sift together into a large bowl two cups powdered borax, one-half cup baking soda and two tablespoons of sachet powder in the scent of your choice. Add one and one-half cups Epsom salts and mix all together very thoroughly. Store in suitable containers.—Laura Roberts Cooke.

I find that my small daughter hangs up her clothes without prompting since I put up a shelf in her closet and fastened a towel rack to the under side of it. The bar on the towel rack she uses as a rod to hang her clothes hangers on, and the shelf is low enough to accommodate her hats and scarfs neatly. This is teaching her neatness and at the same time cuts down on washing and ironing, as her clothes do not soil or become wrinkled easily, when they are hung up as soon as she takes them off.—Blanche Campbell.

A moist sponge placed inside the lid of a jar of paste will prevent the contents from drying out and hardening when the paste is not in use.

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57-1

Jelly-Making Tactics

While fruit is fresh, succulent and in abundant supply, make several kinds of jelly to enjoy during the long winter season ahead

by ANGELA FIELD

THE pride of any homemaker is a cupboard full of clear, sparkling jellies. Made from fresh fruits and berries as they come in season, homemade jellies have a delightful fruity flavor and a wholesome tang. An ideal jelly is stiff enough to hold its shape when removed from the mold, yet sufficiently delicate in texture that it will quiver.

To make really good jelly, the fruit juice must contain sufficient pectin and acid. Juice from apples, blackberries, cranberries, grapes, currants, gooseberries and sour plums jell particularly well. Overripe fruits and fruits with insufficient pectin will need a commercial pectin added to give a well-set jelly. Either powdered crystals or liquid are good but liquid pectin must be used promptly since it deteriorates after opening.

If you wish to make jelly without commercial pectin, it is wise to first test the juice for its pectin content. The test is simple. Boil a little juice in a broad saucepan for three minutes; remove from heat. Measure one teaspoon fruit juice and one teaspoon rubbing alcohol (but not the isopropyl type) into a cup or dish. Blend quickly together and let stand 30 seconds. (Do not taste this mixture as rubbing alcohol is poisonous when taken internally.) If a jelly-like mass is formed, the juice has sufficient pectin.

One cup of sugar is then added for each cup of fruit juice. If a heavy clot doesn't form the first time, continue boiling until a clot does form. For this juice three-quarters cup of sugar is used for each cup of juice. If, after considerable boiling, a clot still doesn't form, commercial pectin must be added.

Unfortunately jelly making comes at a time when farm life is particularly busy. If you find you are very rushed, jelly making can be postponed. Here's all you do. Boil the fruit as usual and extract the juice. Then pour juice into containers and

freeze. Juice will keep for at least three months. Jelly can be made, after thawing, in the usual manner.

Cranberry Jelly

1 lb. (4 c.) cran-	2 c. sugar
berries	2 c. water

Boil cranberries and water for about 20 minutes or until skins are broken; force through sieve. Bring pulp to a boil, add sugar and boil 3 to 5 minutes, stirring until sugar is dissolved. Skim and pour into sterilized glasses and add paraffin while hot. Yield: 4 8-oz. glasses.

Crabapple Jelly

Wash fruit, cut in quarters without removing skin or cores unless they are defective. Add enough water to barely cover (about 1 c. per lb. of fruit). Cook quickly until pulp is soft, then drain through jelly bag without pressure, overnight, or for 6-8 hours. Measure fruit juice then boil rapidly 8 to 10 to 20 minutes depending on the quantity of water used. Skim. Measure out $\frac{3}{4}$ c. sugar to each cup of juice (or as determined by pectin test). Heat the sugar. Add hot sugar to juice, stir until dissolved and boil from 3 to 5 minutes longer or until jelly-stage is reached. Pour into sterilized jars, cool for 10 minutes, seal with paraffin.

Grape Jelly

4 c. grape juice 3 c. sugar
2 T. lemon juice

Extract the juice by crushing the grapes and cooking with just enough water added to prevent sticking. Cook 10 minutes until soft and the juice begins to flow, stirring constantly. Drain through jelly bag, without pressure. Let juice stand for several hours so all tartaric acid crystals will settle to the bottom. Drain off the top juice and discard the milky liquid at the bottom of the container. Measure the juice, add the lemon juice. Bring to the boil; *never* do more than 4 6-oz. cups at one time. Now add the measured sugar and bring quickly to boil, stirring until jelly-stage is reached (takes only a few minutes). Pour into sterilized jars and seal.

Mint Jelly

1¾ c. mint infusion	Green coloring
3½ c. sugar	½ bottle liquid pectin

To prepare mint infusion: Wash 1 packed cup mint leaves and stems. Place



Clear, shimmering jelly made from ripe concord grapes is a family favorite.

in large saucepan and crush thoroughly with a wooden masher. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ c. cider vinegar and $1\frac{1}{4}$ c. water and bring quickly to a boil. Remove from heat, cover and let stand 10 minutes. Strain and measure $1\frac{3}{4}$ c. infusion into saucepan.

To make jelly: Add sugar to mint infusion in saucepan and mix well. Place over high heat and while mixture is coming to a boil stir in coloring to give desired shade. As soon as mixture boils at once add liquid pectin. Then bring to a full rolling boil and boil hard 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, skim and strain quickly through fine sieve into glasses. Paraffin at once. Makes about 5 6-oz. glasses.

Plum Jelly

6 c. plum juice $4\frac{1}{2}$ c. sugar

Extract juice by simmering plums with a little water to prevent burning and boil until tender. Strain juice through jelly bag and measure. For every 6 c. of juice, allow $4\frac{1}{2}$ c. sugar. Boil juice gently for about 15 minutes before adding sugar, then boil until jelly-stage is reached. Pour into sterilized jars and seal.

Wild Plum Jelly

3 c. juice 1 box pectin
4 c. sugar crystals

Crush about 3 lbs. ripe fruit, add $\frac{3}{4}$ c. water and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon soda and cook until tender. Drain through jelly bag. Place 3 c. juice in saucepan and heat; add crystals and stir until it comes to a full boil. At once stir in sugar and bring to full boil for 1 minute. Remove from heat and skim. Pour into sterilized jars and seal.

Peach Jelly

3 c. juice 1 bottle liquid
 $6\frac{1}{2}$ c. sugar pectin

To prepare fruit, pit but do not peel about $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. soft ripe peaches. Crush thoroughly. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ c. water; bring to a boil and simmer, covered for 5 minutes. Place in jelly cloth or bag and let drain. Measure 3 c. into large saucepan. Add sugar to juice in saucepan and mix well. Place over high heat and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. At once add pectin. Then bring to a full, rolling boil and boil hard for 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, skim, pour quickly into glasses. Paraffin at once. Makes about 9 6-oz. glasses.

Blackberry and Red Cherry Jelly

2 lbs. ripe sour 5 c. sugar
red cherries 2 c. light corn
 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. hot water syrup
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ qts. ripe black- 1 c. liquid pectin
berries

Wash cherries; remove stems. Crush cherries; add water. Bring to boiling point; cover. Simmer 10 minutes. Wash berries; remove caps and stems. Crush or, using fine blade, put cherries through food chopper. Place berries and cherries in jelly bag; squeeze out juice. (There should be 4 c.) Place juice, sugar and corn syrup in large saucepan over high heat. Bring to boil; add pectin stirring constantly. Bring to full rolling boil; boil hard $\frac{1}{2}$ minute. Remove from heat; skim. Quickly pour into 11 hot, sterilized jelly jars; paraffin at once. Cool; cover.

Venison Jelly

4 c. juice $\frac{1}{2}$ bottle liquid
7 c. sugar pectin

To prepare juice: Stem about 3 lbs. fully ripe grapes; crush thoroughly. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ c. cider vinegar, 1 tsp. cloves and 2 tsp. cinnamon. Bring to a boil and simmer, covered, for 10 minutes. Place in jelly bag and allow to drain for 6 to 8 hours. Measure out 4 c. of juice into large saucepan. Add sugar to juice in saucepan and mix well. Place over high heat and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. At once stir in pectin. Then bring to a full, rolling boil and boil hard 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat, skim and pour quickly into glasses. Paraffin at once. Makes about 10 6-oz. glasses. ✓

Yes, it is easy to make successful jam — and jelly too — every time when you rely on Certo

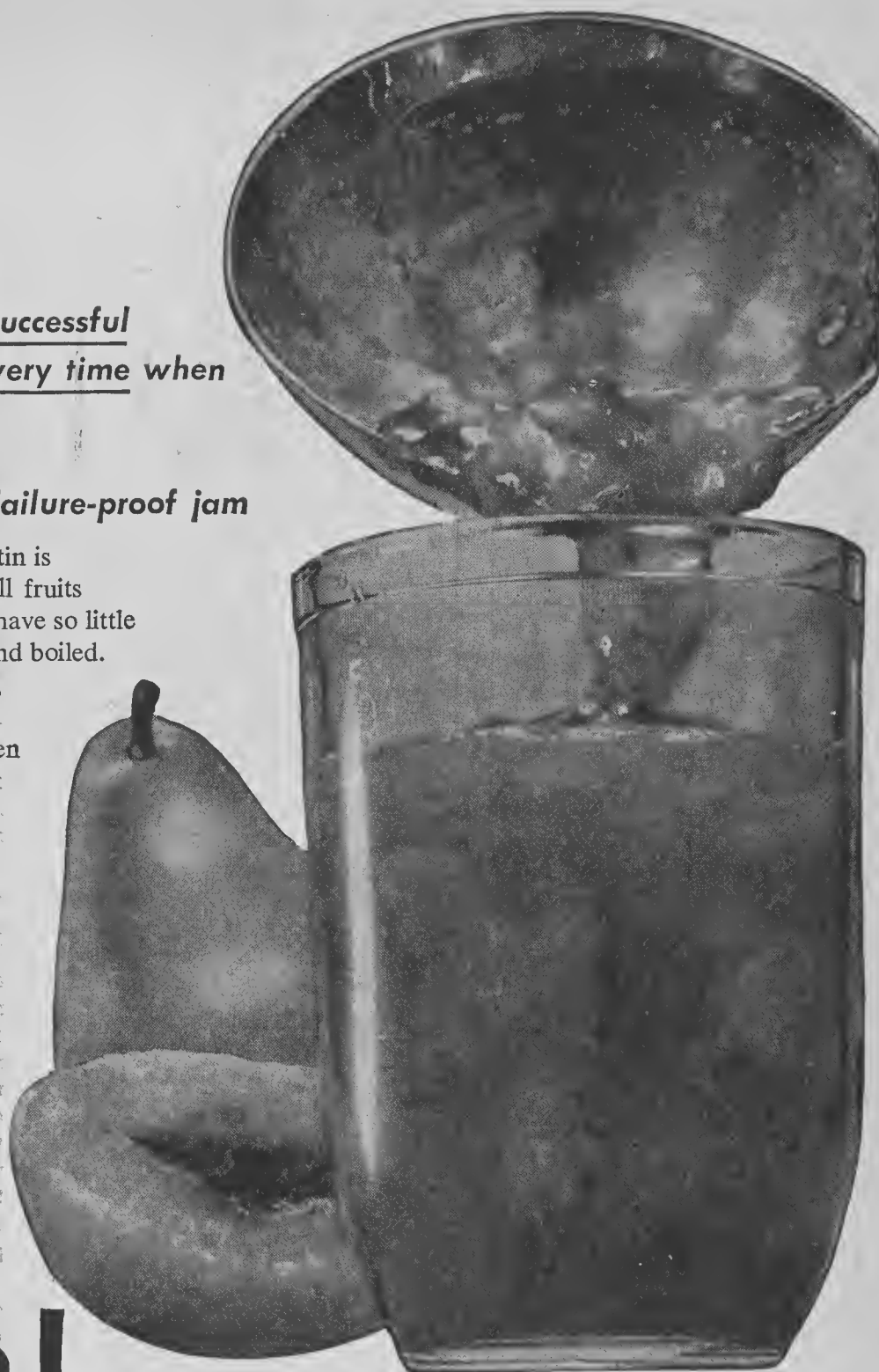
Why CERTO gives you 'failure-proof jam

Certo is natural fruit pectin. Pectin is the jelling substance found in all fruits in varying amounts. Some fruits have so little they must be boiled and boiled and boiled.

Other fruits, with good amounts, must be boiled 20 to 30 minutes before they will jell. But even then you can never be sure of results.

When you use Certo, there's absolutely no guesswork. You boil your fruit hard 1 minute only. You keep the true color and flavor and you get up to 50% more jam because you don't boil the juice away.

You'll be proud to serve this lovely Peach and Pear Jam you make, quickly, easily and so expertly with Certo.



Eat up! No trouble at all to make more!

PEACH AND PEAR JAM

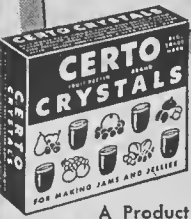
YIELD: about 9 medium glasses ($4\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. jam)

$3\frac{1}{2}$ cups prepared fruit (about 1 quart each ripe peaches and pears)
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup lemon juice (2 lemons)
 $6\frac{1}{2}$ cups ($2\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.) sugar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ bottle Certo Fruit Pectin

First, prepare the fruit. Peel and pit or core about 1 quart each fully ripe peaches and pears. Chop very fine or grind. Combine fruits and measure $3\frac{1}{2}$ cups into a very large saucepan. Squeeze the juice from 2 medium-

sized lemons. Measure $\frac{1}{4}$ cup into saucepan with fruit.

Then, make the jam. Add sugar to fruit in saucepan and mix well. Place over high heat, bring to a full rolling boil, and boil hard 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and at once stir in Certo. Skim off foam with metal spoon. Then stir and skim by turns for 5 minutes to cool slightly, to prevent floating fruit. Ladle quickly into glasses. Cover jam at once with $\frac{1}{8}$ inch hot paraffin.



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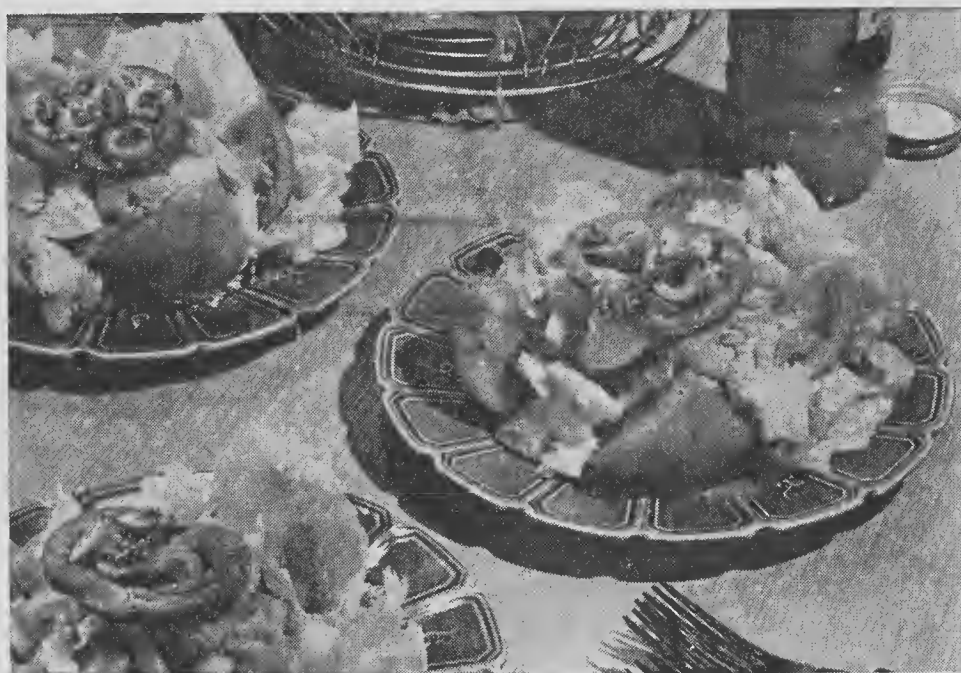
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It's Tomato Time

Luscious vine-ripened tomatoes add color and flavor to fall meals



For late summer enjoyment, serve Seafood salad in fresh, ripe tomato cups.

THERE are few fruits as versatile as the tomato. Served hot or cold, plain or dressed up with other foods, tomatoes add color and eating enjoyment to meals the year 'round.

Tomatoes are wonderful for all sorts of salads—stuffed with meat, egg, fish, cheese or vegetable fillings. They are delicious simply sliced and served on crisp salad greens. A perennial favorite is a tomato and lettuce sandwich but for a slightly novel touch, sprinkle a little chopped mint over the slices. A point to remember is that tomatoes look and taste better and retain more Vitamin C if cut just before serving.

Cooked tomatoes are good, too. Combined with other foods in casseroles, baked, fried, stewed or broiled, they are particularly tasty. Broiled tomatoes are quick to prepare and just right to serve as part of a broiler meal. The meal might include steak or hamburger patties along with onion rings and browned slices of cooked potato—all done in the broiler. For a change tomato halves can be sprinkled generously with grated cheese or buttered bread crumbs, seasoned with a little basil and then broiled.

Because of the high water content, tomatoes are not recommended for freezing. But they can be canned whole, stewed or made into relish or sauce to preserve for winter eating.

Seafood Salad

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 4 large tomatoes, peeled | 2 hard cooked eggs, chopped |
| 4 slices head lettuce, cut ½-inch thick | 4 green pepper rings |
| ¼-½ c. French dressing | 4 stuffed olives, sliced |
| 1½ c. flaked fish | 1 T. chopped parsley |
| ½ c. chopped celery | |

Make 4 cuts out from center of each tomato, taking care not to cut all the way through. (Tomato will open out like a flower.) Place on lettuce on salad plates. Combine fish (tuna, shrimp, lobster or crab), celery, chopped eggs and ¼ c. dressing. Pile mixture into center of each tomato. Garnish with pepper rings, olives and chopped parsley. Serve with

additional dressing if desired. Makes 4 luncheon servings.

Tomato Cheese Souffle

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 3 T. butter | ½ tsp. salt |
| 4 T. flour | 1 c. strained tomato juice |
| 1 c. cheese, grated | 3 egg yolks |
| Few grains cayenne | 3 egg whites |

Make a sauce of butter, flour, tomato juice and seasonings; stir in cheese and heat until the cheese is melted. Remove from stove; stir in unbeaten egg yolks; fold into stiffly beaten whites. Pour mixture into a buttered baking dish; bake in moderate oven (350° F.) for 30 to 40 minutes or until center is firm to the touch when pressed lightly with forefinger. Serve immediately. The souffle can be baked in two dishes, one being placed in the oven 10 minutes after the other and used for the second serving.

Tomato Soup

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|-----------------|---------------|
| 3 c. tomatoes | 2 tsp. sugar |
| 1 pt. water | 1 tsp. salt |
| 12 pepper corns | 3 T. butter |
| Bay leaf | 3 T. flour |
| 4 cloves | 1 slice onion |

Cook tomatoes, water, pepper corns, bay leaf, cloves, onion and sugar for 20 minutes. Strain and add salt. Brown butter and flour together. Blend the tomato with this and serve.

Tomato Aspic

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 2 T. gelatin | 2 T. vinegar |
| ¾ c. cold water | 1 bay leaf |
| 1 c. tomatoes | 2 cloves |
| ½ onion | Few grains cayenne |
| Stalk of celery | |

Soften gelatin in cold water. Cook all ingredients together except vinegar for 10 to 15 minutes. To this hot mixture add soaked gelatin and let it dissolve; then add vinegar. Strain through a fine sieve. Pour into a mold. When cold it may be served as a salad or broken up and used as a garnish.

Tomato Sauce

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 stalk celery | Few grains pepper |
| ¼ c. chopped onion | 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce |
| 2½ c. cooked tomatoes | 2 T. fat or salad oil |
| ½ tsp. salt | 2 T. flour |

Chop celery; combine with onion, tomatoes, salt, pepper and Worcestershire sauce. Cover; simmer 10 minutes;

press through sieve. Heat fat or salad oil; blend in flour. Gradually add tomato mixture. Cook, stirring constantly, until thick. Cook, stirring occasionally, 2 minutes. Serve with spaghetti, macaroni, noodles, rice, meat or vegetables. Makes 1½ cups.

Scalloped Tomatoes

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 2½ c. cooked tomatoes | 3 T. butter |
| 2 T. chopped onion | ½ tsp. sugar |
| 1 tsp. salt | Few grains pepper |
| | 1 c. soft bread crumbs |

Combine tomatoes, onion, salt, sugar and pepper; pour into greased baking dish. Top with crumbs; dot with butter. Bake in hot oven (400° F.) 25 minutes or until brown. Serves 4.

Stuffed Baked Tomatoes

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 4 med. tomatoes | ¾ c. soft bread crumbs |
| 1 small onion | Salt |
| 2 tsp. fat or salad oil | Pepper |
| | Few grains allspice |

Scoop out tomatoes. Mince onion; saute in fat or salad oil. Add tomato pulp, crumbs and allspice. Season with salt and pepper. Stuff tomatoes. Place in greased baking dish; add hot water to cover bottom of baking dish. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) for 30 minutes. Serves 4.

Sauteed Tomato Slices

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 4 med. tomatoes | ½ tsp. salt |
| 3 T. fat or salad oil | Few grains pepper |
| | ½ c. flour |

Wash tomatoes; remove stem ends. Slice ½-inch thick. Mix flour, salt and pepper. Dredge tomatoes in flour mixture. Saute in fat or salad oil until browned, turning once. Serves 4.

Chili Sauce

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 12 ripe tomatoes | 1 onion |
| 1 pepper, finely chopped | 3 T. sugar |
| 2 c. vinegar | 1 tsp. each |
| 1 T. salt | cloves, cinnamon, allspice |
| ½ head celery | |

Cook 45 minutes, or until the mixture is reduced to one-third. Then pack in sterilized jars and seal immediately.

Meat and Tomato Sauce

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| ½ clove garlic | ½ tsp. sugar |
| ¼ c. chopped onion | 3 T. fat or salad oil |
| ½ c. chopped mushrooms | Few grains pepper |
| ¼ lb. ground beef chuck | 2 T. flour |
| 1 tsp. salt | 2½ c. cooked tomatoes |

Chop garlic; combine with onion and mushrooms. Brown in fat or salad oil. Add beef, salt, sugar and pepper; simmer 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. Blend in flour. Add tomatoes, cover; simmer for 20 minutes. Serves 4.

Green Tomato Pickles

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 4 qts. green tomatoes | ½ c. mixed pickling spice |
| 2 qts. onions | 3 c. brown sugar |
| 1 qt. vinegar | |

Slice tomatoes and onions and cover with brine. Drain off brine and wash in cold water. Add vinegar, sugar and spice (tied in a bag). Cook very slowly until onions and tomatoes are very tender and dark in color. Seal in sterilized jars.

Italian Relish

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| ½ c. olive oil | 1 pt. tomatoes |
| ½ c. chopped onions | ½ c. corn |
| ½ lb. hamburger steak | ½ c. cheese |
| ½ c. macaroni | ½ green pepper |
| | ½ c. buttered bread crumbs |

Cook macaroni in boiling, salted water. Put oil in frying pan and when hot add onions and steak and cook 8 to 10 minutes, stirring constantly. Put in a casserole and add cooked macaroni and all other ingredients. Cover with bread crumbs and bake for 20 minutes. V

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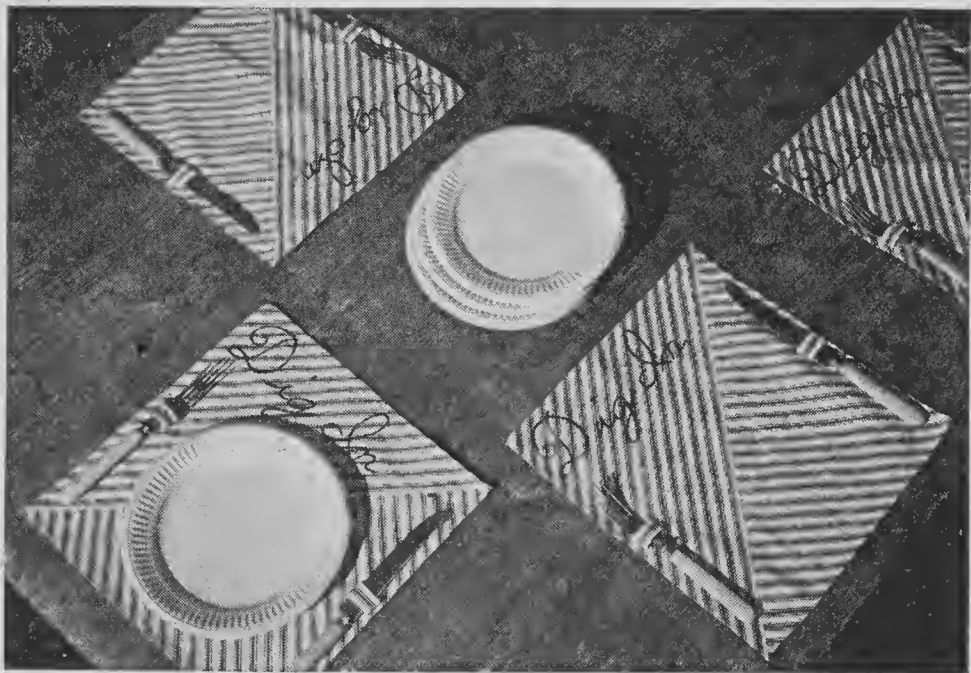
What's for Dinner, Mom?

Sometimes Mom wonders too. It's not always easy to think up new ideas to satisfy those appetites, which seem to need satisfying at all hours of the day. If you've tried any of The Country Guide recipes lately, or any of our homemaking ideas, why not let us have your comments at The Country Guide, Winnipeg 2, Man.

Picnic Accessories

The wayside picnicker and the backyard barbecuer will find good use for these aids made from ordinary mattress ticking

by ANNA LOREE



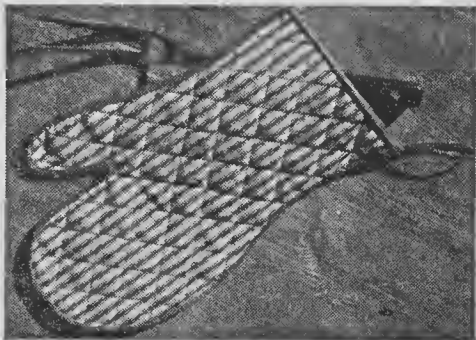
Design No. S-E 2552B

Mom opens up the picnic basket, and brings out instead of the customary tablecloth a set of mattress ticking napkins. There's a place mat for everyone, stuffed with tableware needed. When opened at the picnic table, an embroidered greeting invites all to "Dig In." Because they have been made from sturdy mattress ticking, the napkins should stand up under frequent use, and look fresh

after many washings. The homemaker will also appreciate the little time required for ironing these tablecloth substitutes. These might be a popular item for bazaars or Christmas giving. Materials required for set of four: 1 yard 36" wide mattress ticking, red stranded embroidery floss, and matching mercerized sewing thread. Design No. S-E 2552B. Price 10 cents.

Design No. S-E 2552C

When barbecue mitts have been packed along with the picnic equipment, there's little risk of fingers being burned by coffee pots or other utensils hot off a camp stove. Quilting stitches cushion the palm, and lining may be added for extra protection. Material for one mitt: $\frac{3}{8}$ yard 36" wide mattress ticking, red double fold bias tape. Design No. S-E 2552C. Price 10 cents.



Design No. S-E 2552A

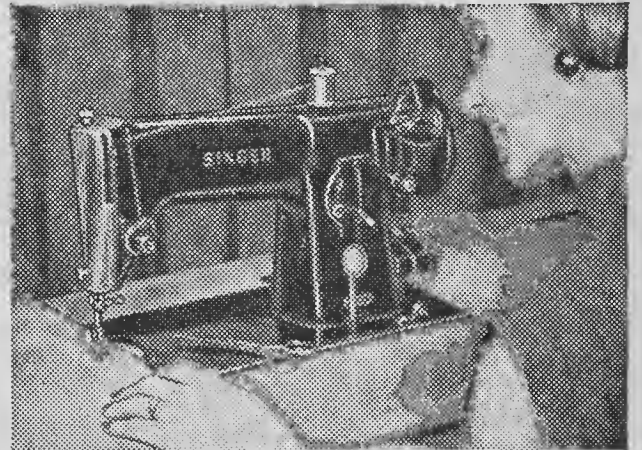
Top man at the barbecue pit is "Pop," cooking the steaks or hamburgers to perfection, and looking very much the distinguished chef in his outsize apron with its practical loops and pockets. Apron pictured is made from $1\frac{1}{8}$ yards 36" wide mattress ticking, $\frac{3}{8}$ yard red poplin trim, and matching mercerized sewing thread. Loops for small kitchen tools may be added as shown, or perhaps a roomy pocket would be preferred, sectioned to hold securely small salt and pepper shakers, or keep a man-size barbecue mitt handy. Instruction sheet gives diagrams to simplify sewing. Design No. S-E 2552A. Price 10 cents.



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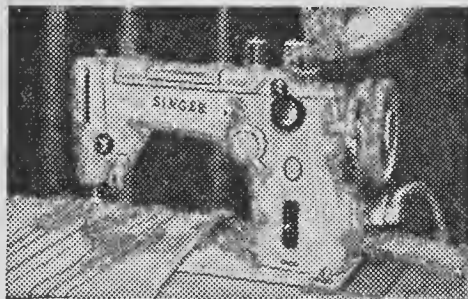
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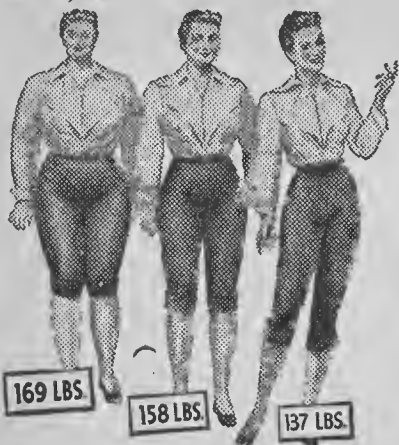
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Almost Half a Century

That's how long The Guide has been a part of the Canadian farm scene. So many things have changed in that time. New machines, new crop varieties, new breeding methods, new ways of doing just about everything, have made the farmer's job more and more complicated. Through all this, The Country Guide has changed too, but has never altered its purpose, which is to keep the farmer informed of the important developments as they occur.

Or Until Done

Some suggestions to help you decide the important point as to when your food is really baked

HOW many times have you seen "... or until done" at the end of a recipe and wondered just exactly what the point of "doneness" was? After making the particular food a few times you may discover by trial and error exactly how you like it cooked. But in case you are still wondering, here are a few guides:

Baking Powder Biscuits. Take a look and remove one from pan; break it apart. When the top is delicately browned, the inside is dry to the touch and it pulls apart easily, it's done.

Cakes, Conventional, One-Bowl, Angel and Sponge. Gently press the top surface with fingers or insert a metal cake tester or tooth pick into the center. It's done when the pressed portion springs back, leaving no finger impressions or when the tester comes out clean, with no batter clinging to it.

Cream Puffs. Take a look; tap lightly. When puffs are puffed high, golden brown and feel crusty, they are done.

Custard. Insert knife into the center. It's done when the knife comes out clean with no custard clinging to it.

Meringue Shells. Take a look, then lightly press with finger. When done, the meringue shells are lightly browned and crisp to the touch.

Custard Sauce. Lift a metal stirring spoon out of sauce. Custard sauce is done when a film of custard remains on the spoon.

Quick Breads and Muffins. Insert a cake tester or tooth pick. When done, the tester will come out clean, the top is golden brown, slightly crusty.

Two-Crust Fruit Pies. Insert fork into pie through slits in top crust. When bottom and top crusts are golden brown and the fork slips into the fruit easily, the pie is done.

Waffles. When cover of waffle maker lifts easily, the waffle is golden

brown on both sides and lifts easily from the grid, it is done.

Yeast Bread and Rolls. Tap lightly with knuckles. When done loaves and rolls will shrink slightly from the pan and the bottom crusts will be golden brown. A hollow sound, when the loaf is tapped, will indicate doneness.

Chicken, Broiled, Fried. Cut through thickest part of the drumstick to bone and pull sides apart. When no pink color shows, it is done.

Chicken, Roast. Test for doneness by grasping end of the bone, then pinch drumstick (using a paper towel). When the joint between the drumstick and thigh moves up and down easily and feels tender, the chicken is done.

Roast Veal, Lamb, Beef, Pork, Ham. A meat thermometer is the best guide for roast meats. Insert before roasting, into the center of the thickest part, making sure the bulb of thermometer does not rest on the bone, fat or gristle. It's done when meat thermometer reads:

Veal	180°F.
Lamb	182°F.
Pork	185°F.
Ham	160°F.
Rare Beef	140°F.
Medium Beef	160°F.
Well-done Beef	170°F.

Fish. Insert a fork into thickest part of fish. When done, the flesh flakes easily and is moist.

Baked Potatoes. Test by pricking with fork. When fork goes easily into potato and feels soft, it is done.

Macaroni, Spaghetti and Noodles. Remove one piece, cool slightly. Then rub between fingertips and taste. If done it will pull apart easily when rubbed with fingers and is tender when tasted.

Rice. Remove a few grains, cool slightly and taste. Grains are fluffy, yet distinct when done and they taste soft, not hard.

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No Douche Protects Like Zonitors—Women Find!

Gynecologist Reports On New, Easy—More Positive Method
Of Feminine Hygiene—Provides Continuous Protection

New York, N. Y. (Special) At last, science has developed a method of feminine hygiene a woman can use with confidence because it gives the germicidal protection of an antiseptic douche; but does it immediately and for a prolonged period—as no douche can. So quick and easy, this new method depends on remarkable vaginal suppositories, called Zonitors.

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Zonitors are greaseless and stainless—cost little for 12 dainty, snow white vaginal suppositories, individually packed to carry conveniently in a purse.

Household Hints

To handle those jar rubbers and lids put them in a large sieve, a colander, or in a French frying basket to sterilize before using for canning. It is easy to lift them from the boiling water as you need them.

Fill a clothes sprinkler with liquid shampoo. It's handy to shake on just a few drops when shampooing your youngsters' hair.

You will save steps and be ready for an emergency with this simple medicine kit in the kitchen. Fasten a small metal spice rack inside a cupboard door or on a handy shelf and fill with the most commonly needed first-aid items. If you burn your finger or Junior comes in with a scratch you will have everything ready to doctor it right away.

A novel type of candle holder may be had by using large iron nuts. You may find these around the home workshop or purchase them at low cost from a hardware store. The nuts are heavy enough to support even very tall tapers and the inside threads help to hold the candle snugly. You can paint the nuts to match a color scheme or leave them as they are and arrange leaves and flowers around them. This type of candle holder is excellent for tables at school or community banquets.

For drying baby's knitted bonnets, make your own drying "frame" from a round balloon. Blow the balloon to the approximate size of the bonnet. Place bonnet over balloon, then add or let out air to adjust to perfect size.

If the children get chewing gum embedded in their clothing or in a carpet, rub with a piece of ice and scrape it off. If a stain remains, sponge with carbon tetrachloride.

Fashions for School



No. 2152—A slimming sheath with popular hip-softening pleats, button-front and soft, roll collar. Raglan sleeves can be short or three-quarter length. This is a good, basic style which has a party look with added beads, scarf or novelty jewelry. Slenderette sizes 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 40, 42. Size 18 requires 4 yards 36-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 1746—Poodle transfers highlight this sew-simple jumper. A perfect outfit for the first-grader. Slim bodice fits neatly into circle skirt; matching bag will double for handbag and lunch pail. Sizes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. Size 4 requires 1 yard 54-inch material. Price 35 cents.

No. S22—The smartest and most useful of all school outfits—the tunic and blazer. Standard tunic has triple pleats both back and front set into a square yoke. Neat single-breasted blazer shows set-in sleeves, patch pockets, revere collar and white cord trim. Sizes 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16. Size 12 requires 3½ yards 54-inch material for blazer and tunic. Price 35 cents.

No. 2165—A versatile charmer that's easy to make and so becoming to a pre-teen miss. Pattern includes a cape, a dress with drop sleeves, button tab collar, gathered skirt and jumper overdress with bib bodice and full skirt. Sizes 7, 8, 10, 12, 14. Size 10 requires 3 yards 36-inch material for dress. Price 50 cents.

No. 2138—A new soft styling of this year's fashion first, the shirtwaist. Features button front, long cuffed set-in sleeves, softly pleated skirt and smart pocket detail. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18. Size 14 requires 5½ yards 36-inch material. Price 50 cents.

No. 2146—The middy look in one of the season's most attractive separates. Skirt can be fashioned with unpressed or box pleats; sleeveless jerkin shows a V-neck at front and gentle curve at back. An ideal outfit for home, school or university and it's quick to make. Sizes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18. Size 14 requires 2½ yards 54-inch material. Price 50 cents.

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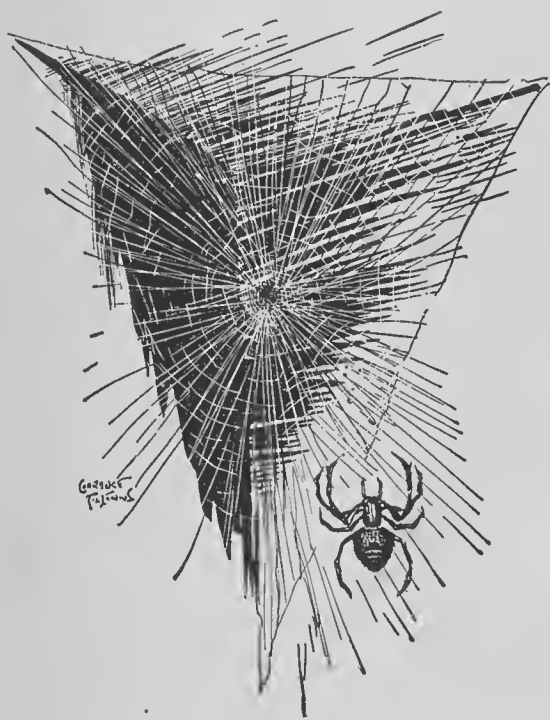
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Write name and address clearly.

Order Simplicity Patterns from The Country Guide Pattern Service, Winnipeg 2, Man., or direct from your local dealer.



The Country Boy and Girl



thread to bind it so that it is helpless. The spider then moves the insect off to a corner of the web ready for a meal.

The spider's spinning organs are near the end of its abdomen. The silk hardens as soon as it comes into the air. When the spider wishes to make a silken thread downwards, it fastens a line to the object on which it is resting, then drops downward, spinning as it goes. If it wishes to return, it climbs up the silken line. To cross from one point to another, it spins a long thread and waits until a current of air carries the sticky thread to some object where it sticks. Now the spider has a silken bridge to cross and recross as it goes about constructing its web.

Ann Sankey

The New Boy's Mistake

by MARY GRANNAN

JIMMY moved to Crestlake in mid-summer. Even before the moving van was emptied of its load, the little boy next door came to introduce himself.

"Hello," he said, "my name's Kippy Green, and I live next door. You're moving into a lovely house, aren't you? My mother and father think your house is one of the prettiest on the street."

Jimmy looked up at his new house. "It's all right, I suppose," he said. "But it's not as nice as the house we had in Blackton. All the houses were better than this, in Blackton."

Kippy smiled, not deflated in the least by Jimmy's remarks. "It must have been a nice town," he said, "but you'll like Crestlake when you get used to it. Would you like to walk around the town this afternoon? I'd like to take you down to the park to meet some of my friends."

The children in the park welcomed Jimmy with enthusiasm. There was something exciting about making a new friend. They asked him to join them in their games. Jimmy looked around him. "Where's the baseball diamond?" he asked.

"We don't have a baseball diamond here," said Johnny Little. "There's a baseball field on the other side of town, but we don't go there. It's for the big boys. We can go when we're older."

"We had a baseball diamond for the small boys in Blackton Park,"

Jimmy said loftily, "and we had a swimming pool, too."

"We swim in the lake," said Kippy. "There's a place roped off especially for us, and there's a guard to teach us to swim." Kippy was sure that Blackton had nothing better than that to offer. But he was wrong.

Jimmy sighed. "It's fresh water, I suppose. Blackton is near the sea and we can swim in salt water anytime we want to. And the big breakers come in and lap over us."

Johnny Little walked away. So did Davey Hennesy. Kippy blushed. He wished that Jimmy would not talk quite so much about Blackton. "Come on, Jimmy," he said. "I was going to show you around the town. I'll take you down Maple Street and you can see our school, where you'll be going in the fall."

The big red brick school had seen many generations of children come and go. It was set back from the street, with an avenue of trees leading to the front door. Once again, Jimmy scoffed. "It's old," he said. "In Blackton we have a new school. It's all on one floor and it has pink and green and blue walls in the classrooms, and each of us had our own lockers."

Kippy said nothing to defend his own school. He walked the rest of the way without speaking. When he went into the kitchen at home, his mother saw that something was worrying him. "What is it, Kippy?" she asked.

"It's the new boy," said Kippy. "Heck, Mum, nothing in Crestlake suits him. I want to be friends with him, but I can't."

"Give him time," suggested Kippy's mother.

Kippy gave him time, but Jimmy didn't seem to get over missing Blackton. One morning, a week later, Johnny called at Kippy's house. "Kippy," he said. "We are sick and tired of hearing about Blackton, and I came to tell you that if you want to play with us, leave 'Blackie' at home. I wanted you for my partner in the three-legged race at the picnic but if you're going to bring him along, I'll get someone else."

Kippy shook his head. "Don't get anybody else, Johnny. You and I are always partners at the picnic. I'll come to the park alone this afternoon."

Jimmy was surprised when he saw Kippy run off without him after lunch. He sat on the back steps all afternoon. When Kippy returned, he sat down with him. "Johnny and I were practicing for the three-legged race. Davey's father has a lodge about ten miles from here, and every year he gives us a big picnic, with prizes and everything."

"He didn't invite me," said Jimmy.

"Well, I guess I'd better go home," said Kippy. "It's almost supper time."

The next morning found Jimmy once more sitting alone on the back steps. His mother crossed the driveway and went to talk with Mrs. Green.

"What's happened?" she asked. "Jimmy's very unhappy. Do you know why he hasn't been invited to the picnic?"

Mrs. Green told her, apologetically, after which Jimmy's mother said, "I don't blame them for objecting to this overdose of Blackton. I'll have a talk to my young son."

A half hour later, Jimmy went down to the park. When the other boys saw him coming, the game broke up and they started to wander away. "Wait, please wait," called Jimmy. "I have something to say."

Curious, the boys gathered around him. "I've just had a talk with my mother," Jimmy said, "and I've learned something that I should have known. When a person comes to a new place, he should try to fit in. I haven't done that. I'm sorry." He paused and laughed. "I found out the day after I came that I like it better than Blackton. I don't know why I kept talking about it. Would you try to forget it and let me play with you?"

The boys grinned broadly. "Sure," said Davey. "We're having a picnic on Saturday, Jimmy. Would you like to come?"

Kippy sighed happily. Jimmy belonged.

Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 66 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



THE crayon sketch above, which at first sight may look like a bewildering tangle of logs, stumps, trees, rocks and bushes, is really constructed on a foundation of a few simple lines.

The upper edge of the large log lying diagonally across the bottom of the sketch was the first line. Next, after judging its thickness with the eye the line indicating the underside was drawn. With this log in place on the paper, the angle of the large upright tree to right of center and the thickness of the trunk (compared with fallen log) were indicated with two more lines, and also where the horizon came. After this, the angles the various logs and rocks made with the first large log (and with each other) rendered construction fairly simple.

Since this was a scene in bright sunlight, with dappled shadows falling here and there on logs and rocks, the crayon was used very lightly, going over the darker areas several times to build up the tone. If you were doing a preliminary sketch of a scene like this, intending to do a water color over it, you would not bother shading the dark areas. A simple sketch with the rocks, trees and logs correctly placed and indicated with light pencil lines would be all you needed before going ahead with the watercolor wash.

(Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors series now available in book form from The Country Guide, Winnipeg. Price post-paid \$1.00).

Highlights from The Hereford Congress

HERE are some of the interesting comments made by speakers at the Hereford Congress, which was held in Calgary prior to the Stampede last month.

Speaking to the purebred breeders, John Cross of Nanton, Alberta, had this to say: "What we ranchers need now is new criteria to use when we choose our bulls. A long pedigree, a layer of fat, or a hollering auctioneer doesn't help us very much. To a rancher, condition, which is the ability to settle cows, is most important, but how can you expect a bull to be useful on the range after two years of pampering in the show-ring?"

Bert Hargrave of Walsh, Alberta, gave his idea of a top performing range beef herd. "I like calves to weigh 400 pounds plus, at weaning time—I say plus because that will depend on the summer growth of grass. Then, 800-pound yearlings off the grass in October, 1,200-pound cows with calves, and bulls that weigh a ton at five to six years old, but grown out naturally."

Bert Hargrave on performance and progeny testing. "Like the four-minute mile, the four-pound-a-day gain is here—it has been accomplished. The production of 1,000 pounds of beef in 12 months is now a reality. These are indications of extreme efficiency, but they are also a goal for us to shoot at."

Dr. L. W. McElroy, University of Alberta, on performance testing. "When an animal, either bull or heifer, under a performance test gains weight more rapidly than the average of the others being tested under the same conditions, one can expect to obtain calves from that bull or heifer that have a higher than average potential."

Rancher Elwood Downey, Wawanesa, Manitoba, on performance testing. "I think we should make an effort to stay in the middle of the road on this. I have found—with a few exceptions—that breeders with poor quality cattle make the most noise about performance testing because they see it as a chance to boost the sale of their cattle. Another fact we

shouldn't lose sight of is that packer-buyers are definitely bearing down on so-called big cattle, the kind most performance testers say we should have."

Rancher George Ross, Manyberries, Alberta. "I would say the average income from money invested in ranches today is from five to eight per cent. Counting both good and bad years, the average animal will produce 250 pounds of beef a year (either as gain or a calf), therefore a 1,000-head ranch would produce about 250,000 pounds of beef, with a present gross value of \$37,500. From this can be deducted \$4,000 for lease rentals, \$8,000 for wages, \$5,000 for feed, \$2,500 for fencing, \$1,000 for trucking, and \$4,500 for other expenses, for a total of \$25,000. This would mean a net of \$12,500 or about six per cent."

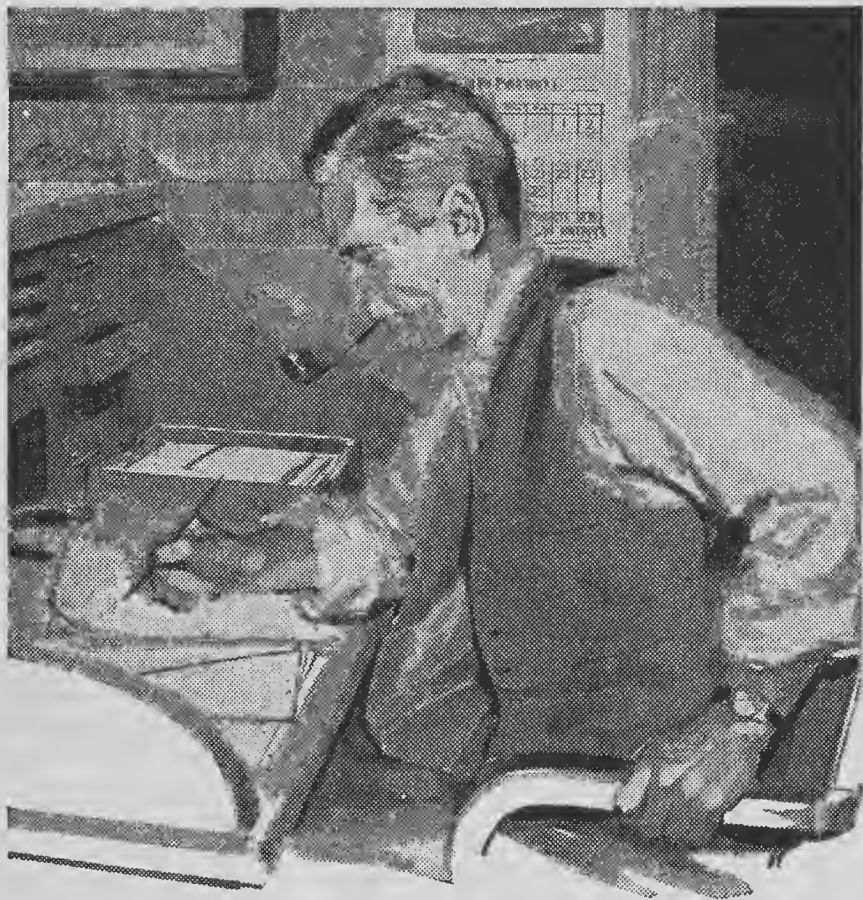
Rancher George Ross on costs: "Producing smaller cattle to suit the modern table is costing us a fortune. We can put pounds on a steer between the ages of two and four years old an awful lot cheaper than we can produce the same amount of beef selling yearlings and two-year-olds. Then there's the costs of labor and equipment. It costs us the income from a 50-head cattle ranch to pay one man \$125 a month and his board. Fencing

costs us \$450 a mile, which is almost six times what it used to."

Alfred Hales, meat retailer, Guelph, Ontario: "The beef producer must realize he can no longer serve two masters—the consumer and the show-ring. By shortening and thickening his animal he has increased the amount of brisket and ribs, which are cheaper cuts, and to make his animal conform to type he has been putting on more fat than meat. He should be aware that he has strong competition from producers of other meat products. In Ontario alone, 500,000 broilers are marketed each week, replacing no less than 3,000 average steers."



"Well—it ain't hay."

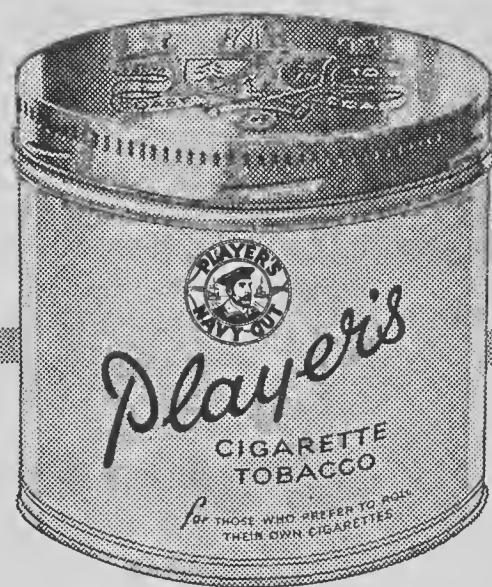


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The Dog

Continued from page 12

The next day Ned learned once and for all that it was dog, not herder, that controlled the flock's movements, that only the dog was nimble enough to keep the sheep in order. Even so he stuck to the arduous, almost impossible task of driving the flock forward alone. Times when the sheep would scatter, Ned would run on foot, shouting, brandishing his crook, exhausting himself. It seemed to him that every woolly in the flock took malicious delight in wandering aimlessly and scattering afar.

At the end of the day he judged that he had covered less than five miles and his nerves were worn to a frazzle. He made a greasewood fire and warmed a can of beans for his supper. Then he fed the horses and watered them sparingly from his full water keg. He decided to tether them overnight instead of letting them graze, and immediately sought his bunk in the wagon.

IN the night something brought him sharply awake. He lay listening for a space. He could hear the faint stirring of the sheep and the ruckling of the horses over their dusty forage, but it was neither of these things that had roused him. Then came the panting breath in the close darkness and the scrape of pads on the very floor of the wagon. Ned reached for his rifle. As he did so a dark form leapt out the open door. It was the dog right enough, with something in its jaws. Whatever it was he must have got it here in the wagon. Ned had to know what the thing was.

He made a light and surveyed the familiar interior of the wagon, looking first to the provisions, bacon, flapjack flour, etc. Nothing missing. Then he saw with a kind of cold sickly sensation that Old Man Gleason's corduroy jacket was gone from its peg. That coat had hung within three feet of his own head! Only his sudden awakening and reaching for his rifle had saved him from attack, Ned thought.

He was shaking again with the desire to shoot the dog, but he smothered the impulse and lay awake stewing till morning. In the first light when he looked out he saw the dog sitting near the tethered team. The horses—that was a hold he had on the dog. It had been Maje's night duty to keep the grazing horses from straying too far. There was a fraternity there that old Gleason used to smile about—"the three of them," he would say.

The dog went off the instant he saw Ned. He hadn't touched the food laid out and it was plain he wasn't going to work, though he sat at a distance and watched, as Ned got the flock under way. Afterwards, he followed but made no move to help.

That day the movements of the dog seemed uncanny. When Ned thought he was off to the left he would suddenly appear at his right. When he thought Maje had circled ahead, he would find the animal trailing him. And always watching that way while Ned went through the same desperate struggle of the days before to keep the flock together, much less in motion. At times it seemed to him that the watching dog was enjoying the spectacle he must make with his futile

dashes and abusive screams. It was almost too much to bear: in late afternoon a peril of fury shook him and he had to stop for the day, more exhausted than he'd ever been in his life. Once more he tethered the horses, even though it meant that the dog would be closer to him than he liked. Twice he was awakened as on the first night, by the desolate keening of Maje mourning his master.

One element Ned had entirely overlooked when he planned the killing, and that was his unfamiliarity with the country. Old Gleason had known every spring and water hole in the region and kept to them in his trekking, but now for two days Ned had pressed forward through completely waterless country. As a result the supply keg in the wagon had run dangerously low. He knew the sheep could go on for days in case they did not come to water, but the horses needed two or three gallons each per day and he himself consumed several quarts. According to his vague calculation it was still a long way to the railroad. He must find a fresh water supply, that was certain. Lying awake it struck him that if old Gleason knew where the water holes were, the dog knew too. Maje was getting plenty of water, it was plain, getting food too, hunting his meals wolf-fashion in the waste.

NED persisted in tethering the horses close by at night though "the three of them" conferring in the blackness, brought him an uneasy sense of Gleason's presence as well. In his dreams he often saw the old man moving about his chores and sometimes in the night the horses would whinny in a particular pleased way of greeting that he remembered too well. Once on a windy night when the wagon creaked and swayed Ned dreamed that he saw the old man's bearded face in close up. The eyes light azure, wonderfully young from distance-gazing, looked through and past him. It was in this dream that Ned heard Gleason sound his particular sheep call that used to spur Maje to greater effort when hill or gully had riven the flock in two. He awoke with the sense that he had been given in sleep a key to his problem. The instinct of generations of sheep dogs must tell; the call and the sight of the scattering flock would constitute an irresistible compulsion to Maje. Ned lay awake the rest of the night trying to formulate the call mentally.

In the dawn he was quivering with wild anticipation, but the dog was nowhere in sight. Throughout the morning Ned practiced the sheep call in low tones, always waiting for a glimpse of Maje, but it was afternoon before the animal showed, looking very rested and well fed. Purposefully then, Ned let the flock break. He controlled himself waiting for the exact right moment, then he sounded Gleason's rally call.

Now for Ned the earth stood still in fierce tension until he heard, for the first time since Gleason's death, the business-like barking of the dog as he rushed into action. From the seat of the sheep wagon Ned repeated the call, his voice rising to a falsetto pitch in feverish elation. The dog had been against him and so had the wilderness but he had won at last. A shattering sense of power swept Ned Hargis so that he laughed and yelled it out to

the far hills that old man Gleason's dog was working his tail off, leading him right through to old Gleason's treasure.

Beside himself with triumph Ned had failed to notice what was really happening to the flock. Now a cry of chagrin broke from him. The dog was at work, but in reverse! At incredible speed the animal was shivvying first one knot of sheep then another, but *afeld*, hopelessly scattering them. Ned jumped to the ground and ran crazily here and there trying to offset the demon work of the dog. Nothing could be more futile, he saw, and now that the disbanding was set in motion it would never stop, the dog would see to that. He would separate the flock to the ends of the earth! There was only one thing to do. Gasping for breath, his heart like a flapping fish in the bottom of a boat, Ned stumbled back to the camp wagon for his rifle.

By the time he got the gun Maje was again lost to sight. But Ned waited. Close by was one remaining segment of the flock, perhaps 200 sheep. The dog would be back to scatter these too! Ned lay down in a clump of pinon to wait. When at last the dog came into sight he was trembling like a man with buck fever and fired too soon. Even so he was sure he had hit the animal at 200 yards. He saw the dog jerk, then bound for cover in the brush. Ned went to his feet and emptied the entire chamber at the spot.

Yes, he had hit him, there was blood on the leaves when he went to look. He tracked the dog some distance by other blood marks on the leaves. Quite likely the animal would hole up somewhere to die. He himself must rest now. He was suddenly exhausted again, too done in to bother about the strayed flock.

Back at the wagon he drank abandonedly of the diminishing water supply. Its slosh in the keg showed that it was alarmingly low. Ned turned the horses loose to graze and get what moisture they could from the dew. He ate his beans cold and fell into his bunk to sleep like a dead man.

IN the morning the horses were nowhere in sight. From a nearby rise Ned sighted them about a mile away—no, it was "the three of them!" The dog, beyond doubt it was the dog, was sitting close by communing with the team the way he always did. So he had only grazed the animal after all. Well, he had to have those horses. He set out at once without waiting to eat, taking his rifle along, for he meant to get the dog at the first opportunity. He would not miss a second time. He knew now that he could not

hope to win out while the dog was alive.

There was a coaxing call old Gleason had used with the horses. Ned tried it as he came closer but the team and the dog, too, merely melted away beyond the ridge. He kept following but 300 yards was as close as he could get to them. It looked as if the dog was keeping them on the move. Again and again the same thing happened: as he approached dog and horses moved off. As for the sheep, they were scattered over miles of hills. It was an irrevocable step he had taken in shooting at the dog again, also in turning the team loose. "My dog tried to tell me about you all along . . ." he heard the echo of old Gleason's voice.

But he couldn't give up. He had come too far from the wagon to go back empty handed. The team must tire of the game at last and let him come up. But late afternoon found him no closer. He was so thirsty and famished now that he could not call or shout. He turned back to camp. It was after dark before he saw the wagon on a rise against the risen moon.

IN the morning Ned was horrified to find that there was barely enough water left in the keg to fill a canteen. Only a miserable death awaited him if he stayed on here. He must strike out alone at once and travel fast until he found water. He had lost the flock, the dog had beaten him there. But there was still reward waiting for him at the cabin at Agua Fria, if he could ever reach it—thousands of dollars perhaps. "My life savings," the old man had said. He took the canteen and a gunnysack of food, his rifle and a couple of blankets and set out on foot. Far up a draw to his left the shimmering yellow-gold of cottonwoods showed and below them autumnal clusters of oak-scrub and hackberry. Such growth meant water if there was water anywhere in this hellish country. He started to climb but overloaded as he was the going was stiffer than he had thought. The gunnysack was heavy and rolled on his back and unbalanced him at times as he moved.

Up toward the cottonwoods it became a matter of hand climbing among the rocks. Now he knew how overloaded he was but wouldn't give up any of his provisions though his heart pounded up against his throat in a fierce double action, loud in the stillness.

He had to rest many times along the way. Once toward midday as he hunkered panting on a boulder, his packs laid aside, an incautious move dislodged his rifle from where it lay. It pitched down the face of the rock. Instead of stopping just below, it slithered onward amid a rattle of stones until he lost sight of it in the gully below. He did not have it in him to start down after it right then. But he marked the spot with two stones before he went on.

When at last he reached the high cluster of cottonwoods there was no water but there was a spot where the earth was moist. He began hacking a hole with his knife and after an exhausting hour or so he saw seepage at the bottom of the hole and at last a trickle. Slowly, slowly the hole he had dug collected water. It tasted icy and

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Savage offers you a terrific slide action repeater complete with \$30 worth of extras—for only \$82.95. Just about the most comfortable gun you ever put to your shoulder, the 77-SC is equipped with recoil pad and the famous Savage Super-Choke which reduces recoil by 30% or more without loss of shot velocity.

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Other outstanding features include a receiver and trigger guard gracefully streamlined into the full pistol grip . . . tapered extension beavertail slide handle grooved for firm grip . . . handsome walnut stock with fluted comb. Available in 12, 16 or 20 gauge.

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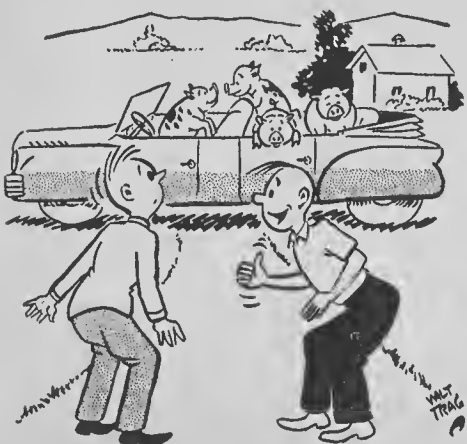
There are Savage, Stevens and Fox shotguns and rifles for every shooter and every kind of shooting. Write for free rifle or shotgun catalog. Savage Arms Corporation, Chicopee Falls 30, Mass.

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**MEN
PAST
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Troubled with **GETTING
UP NIGHTS, Pains in BACK,
HIPS, LEGS, Tiredness
Loss of Physical Vigor**

If you have these symptoms then your troubles may be traced to Glandular Dysfunction . . . a constitutional disease. Medicines that give temporary relief will not remove the cause of your trouble. Neglect of Glandular Dysfunction often leads to premature old age and sometimes incurable malignancy.

The past few years men from over 3,000 communities have been successfully treated here at the Excelsior Institute. They have found soothing relief and new zest in life.

The Excelsior Institute, devoted to the treatment of diseases peculiar to older men by **NON-SURGICAL** methods has a **NEW FREE BOOK** that tells how Glandular Dysfunction may be corrected by proven **NON-SURGICAL** treatments. This book may prove of utmost importance in your life. Write today. There is no obligation. Excelsior Institute, Dept. A134 Excelsior Springs, Mo.

**United Grain Growers
Limited
NOTICE**

In accordance with the Income Tax Act, this will advise our customers (including both members and non-members) as referred to in the said Act, that in accordance with the terms and conditions, and within the times and limitations contained in the said Act, it is our intention to pay a dividend in proportion to the 1957-58 patronage out of the revenue of the 1957-58 taxation year, or out of such other funds as may be permitted by the said Act; and we hereby hold forth the prospect of the payment of a patronage dividend to you accordingly.

The foregoing notice applies to grain delivered to this Company between August 1, 1957 and July 31, 1958.

UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LIMITED
D. G. MILLER,
Secretary.
Winnipeg, Man.

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M. E. Beard of Frankfort, Indiana
Five Star Litter of 12 Pigs
 tipped the scales at 835 pounds at 8 weeks for a fantastic average of almost 70 pounds per pig.

The third heaviest litter in Landrace History and the highest this year to date. These pigs went on to make a ton of pork in 110 days. The Sire of this litter was Fergus Ne Plus Ultra 55, bred and raised by Fergus Landrace Swine Farm. For the tops in Landrace order from the Fergus Landrace Swine Farm. We are recognized the largest importer and breeder of Top Quality Landrace Swine in Canada. Weanling, four-month-old, six-month-old sows and boars, guaranteed in-pig sows, serviceable boars, for immediate delivery. Catalogue.

Fergus Landrace Swine Farm
 Fergus Ontario

Notice of Dividend No. 47 United Grain Growers Limited Class "A" Shares

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors has declared a dividend at the rate of 5% on the paid-up par value of Class "A" (Preferred) Shares (par value \$20.00 each).

This dividend will be paid on or about September 1, 1957, to holders of such shares of record at the close of business on Wednesday, July 31, 1957.

By Order of the Board.

D. G. MILLER,
 Secretary.

July 29, 1957.
 Winnipeg, Manitoba.

wonderful in his overheated condition. He drank and drank and in deep appeasement that followed he thought, the wilderness is running out of tricks. Tomorrow he'd collect his gun. He drank still more water, but he could not eat. It was sleep he needed for abruptly he felt ill.

Ned huddled in his two blankets, shaken by chills, unable to get warm. He was too cold to sleep. He crawled about collecting bark and branches to build a fire, then crouched beside it, as close as he could get without burning his flesh. Later he must have dropped into a tormented sleep. He roused with a start to find the fire almost out. It had grown colder and the moon was directly overhead, making black and silver patterns among the cottonwoods. His body was numb and his teeth chattered in the still mountain cold.

Then he saw the phosphorescent eyes in the blackness. He thought for a moment it was a wolf, then he knew very surely that it was The Dog. The creature doubtless sensed now that he had no gun. Nothing for it but to climb a tree.

He snatched up a stick of wood and mouthing threats backed toward the largest tree. He fancied he heard the dog's almost soundless snarl but it came no nearer. Ned was shaking with chills and so weak he could scarcely

climb but somehow he managed to swarm up into the lower branches. The dog had moved to the foot of the tree and was watching him phosphor-eyed.

It had grown very cold in the night and now a wind was rising. In him was a burning core of fever, but surrounding it was a shuddering cold that shook his body till he could scarcely cling to the branches. But he had to cling, for the dog was waiting just below. He must have lost consciousness at last and dropped from the tree, for now he was on the ground and in great pain, his back bowed across a rock. He tried to move but he could not. It was growing light now and the cold seemed less intense. In the frosty dawn the round bright leaves of the cottonwoods came shimmering down, sifting about and upon him in a golden horde, like treasure.

IT was nightfall again when Maje returned on his regular rounds of keeping track of all his master's goods, which included the movements of the man who had come with them to the high sheep camp. He found the stiff form among the fallen leaves and knew that it would not move again, which was well. Maje sat down with nose to the sky and loosed the long drawn howl that had to come out; then he turned and trotted back toward his friends, the horses. V

Sheep Replace Annapolis Orchards



Victor Aylward wants a flock of 400 ewes eventually, because they pay well and are not too demanding, if one doesn't cut corners in caring for them.

THE small-farm sheep flock, just like the flock of hens, or the small dairy herd, is fast fading into obscurity, now that specialization in farming calls for greater numbers. The swing to bigger flocks of sheep has been slower than with other kinds of stock, but a few farmers are counting their sheep by the hundreds now, and becoming enthusiastic about it, too.

Victor Aylward at Windsor, the gateway to Nova Scotia's apple-famous Annapolis Valley, is one of them. Like most of his neighbors, he has been pulling out apple trees in the face of low fruit prices, and looking for other ways to boost his income. Though he has a 24-cow dairy herd

and some hogs as well, he made his most important innovation in 1951, when he bought 17 purebred Shropshire and Leicester ewes.

The ewes thrived on the lush grass of his rolling fields and in his orchards. They grazed outdoors until well into December, and required little care except at shearing and lambing times. In short, they gave him a nice return on his investment without much work — nice enough that he has been saving ewe lambs ever since and has built the flock to 120 ewes. By the time he reaches that easier life of retirement he has been looking for, he figures on having a flock of 400 ewes.

There is no question in his mind about the future of sheep in Canada.

"They are here to stay," he says. "But you can't cut corners in looking after them."

He worms the flock spring and fall, because they run the same fields year after year; and he dips them after shearing, for tick control.

He has fenced right around the farm for sheep, using wire from abandoned fox ranches for most of it. He brings the flock into a seven-acre fold each night during summer, for protection from rambling dogs.

To assure a good lamb crop, he begins feeding one-half pound per day of dry and fitting ration about January 1; and because Maritime

farmers require Western grain to finish livestock, he makes his best home-grown crop—grass—do the job of finishing the lambs. By spreading all the manure produced, and supplementing it occasionally with 100 pounds of commercial fertilizer, he keeps it grass lush and nutritious. Consequently, he can sell his April lambs in August or later, weighing 80 to 100 pounds, without having given them a lick of grain.

Biggest job is shearing the flock. "I take my time, and do it myself," he explains. When the flock numbers 400, he hopes to be able to shear all of them, also. V

Pigs in Open Sheds

LOOSE housing is taking the hard work out of cattle-raising, as well as reducing overhead and labor costs. If you talk to A. M. (Ted) Shaver at Ancaster, Ontario, he will tell you that the same thing will be happening with pigs before long.

He has been raising pigs himself for 18 months, in a new open-shed building with concrete runways outside, and says that pigs can tolerate any reasonable amount of cold, as long as they are dry.

"Livestock are coddled too much in this country," he maintains. There is no pig pampering in his building, which handles 50 feeder pigs in each of the four adjacent pens, through which he is feeding off 600 pigs per year.

Plans for his shelter were provided by a feed company, and are said to be coming into use in the United States. The shelter, built of clay blocks, faces south, and slightly sloping concrete runs provide an exercise area. A concrete gutter at the lower end prevents run-off and erosion.

The arrangement of gates permits him to drive across the outside platform each morning with his power box, to dump whole shelled corn and supplement into the self-feeding hoppers just under the shed roof. He scrapes droppings off the platform regularly, throws straw into the bedding area in the shed, and says that about an hour of labor per day looks after the entire 200 hogs.

To prevent snow blowing into the sleeping area during blizzards, he hung sheets of plywood on hinges, over the doorway, but says that these are dropped only during severe storms.

The building cost him less than \$5,000 and, as far as he knows, is the first of its kind in Canada. It has proved so satisfactory for him, that he is now remodelling his old barn to handle another 100 pigs in a similar manner.

SUCH accommodation makes possible a sizable pig set-up today. But according to Mr. Shaver, another earlier obstacle to volume pig operations also is being overcome. Diseases licked plenty of pig enterprises in the past. And Ted Shaver admits that he has had just about every sickness with his hogs.

"Modern drugs can control most diseases now," he believes. Rhinitis, scours, diamond-skin disease—he's



A view of the open-shed system built by Ted Shaver, at Ancaster, Ontario.

had them all. But adequate veterinary advice, and quick control measures have prevented any of them from turning into real problems.

Most effective safeguard against disease is sanitation, and he has had plenty of training in this field. He had a purebred dairy herd at one time, and was taught the techniques of good husbandry when he was a youngster. He also built what is said to be the first broiler house in Canada on his farm. In mass production of chickens, sanitation and disease control are indispensable for success. As with dairy cattle, or chickens, so with pigs, and "Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

MR. SHAVER, who grows 100 acres of corn, decided to try the pig business, when he figured that the corn crop could pay bigger returns if he turned it into the finished product himself, rather than sell it raw.

Biggest problem with such a system, Mr. Shaver has found, is locating feeder pigs. He has been buying at community sales, but notes that while a well-grown eight-week-old weaner should weigh 50 pounds, not many of the ones he can find are that robust. He sees a real future for farmers who want to go into the business of producing weaners for operations like his own.

His sanitation and health program runs this way. When he arrives home with feeders, he puts them on half-feed for two or three days, to forestall any attack of scours. Dirty pigs are washed, or dipped, in a lindane solution to clean up any scurf, or lice. He also inoculates for shipping fever when the pigs arrive home. Then, a sharp eye is on the pigs at all times for the first sign of further trouble. V

What If Drought Comes?

Continued from page 9

in the better years, and those who insisted on cultivating marginal lands continuously, were in real trouble.

In all areas the main emphasis was on conserving moisture and holding the topsoil by keeping an adequate trash cover on cultivated land, and an unimpaired cover on range land and pasture. Where there was no cover, or where it had been seriously reduced, the immediate effect was drifting soil and a much smaller penetration of available moisture into the soil. The importance of cover has also been stressed in Canada for many years, but not everybody has realized how vital it is.

Wind erosion occurs where soil is loose, finely divided and dry, or when it is smooth and bare. It can be prevented if the soil surface is roughened by vegetation or trash. Soil can be held temporarily if it is compacted, kept moist, or is made up of clods. Erosion usually begins on light sandy soil. A particle is moved by the wind: it strikes another particle and sets it in motion, starting a chain reaction which produces that symbol of human misery, the dust storm. That is why the soil must be caught before it starts to drift. Later is too late.

It is impossible to pin down this precarious soil situation to any one cause. Prairie fires in the past did a lot of damage; overgrazing has been another cause; and plowing without care for the consequences has made it worse. Yet another reason is the climate, which is semi-arid, and not adapted to some implements which were developed for more humid regions. But however it happened, the fact remains that parts of the once fertile plains have become light and sandy through losing some, or part, of their original content of silt, clay and organic matter. These are the dust bowls, the trouble spots which cannot be ignored.

FACED with an acute drought problem, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has recommended a policy of stubble mulching, terracing, cover cropping and the planting of windbreaks for cultivated land. Where land is not suited to permanent cultivation, they say it should be reseeded to grass. National forests, grazing lands and major watersheds are being established where they will do the most good. On rangeland, the aim is to establish a protective cover of vegetation, and to construct water storage for livestock and vegetation. Local groups are being encouraged to develop their own soil and water projects throughout entire watersheds. In the worst areas, it is estimated that 1.5 million acres have been taken out of production for five years or more, through the soil bank.

Many of these practices would apply equally well to the Canadian Prairies. The accent is on self-help, for it is on the farm that the battle must be fought.

Take methods of cultivation, for example. Blade implements have gained in popularity in the U.S. during the dry years, because they can maintain a good trash cover of up to 70 per cent, for as much as three

years. This is important when trash is scarce, but it is a good way to conserve moisture and hold the soil at any time. The blade doesn't chop up the trash, nor does it pulverize the soil and leave it in condition to blow. Disking both chops and pulverizes, and the one-way saves only about 10 to 20 per cent of the trash. If disking is practiced, it should be shallow enough to allow later tillage with a cultivator, and it should be kept to a minimum. This also applies to the drag harrow, which will break down the soil particles if used too much.

Despite their recent experiences, some farmers in the U.S. were taking a chance with disks this spring, on account of a better moisture situation. This is because the disk is faster than the blade, but it is a shortsighted policy under the circumstances.

Strip cropping, used in conjunction with trash cover on alternate strips, has been effective in controlling soil drift. As much as 80 per cent of the cultivated land in some of the more northerly states has been divided into 20-acre fields, using strips of winter wheat alongside summerfallow.

Contouring and spiking have been used to increase the penetration of moisture into the soil, but these were not sufficient without a trash cover. As the last emergency measure to prevent soil erosion, they have been chiselling deep furrows and listing narrow ones, in the hope of setting up some resistance to the wind.

THE correct spacing of row crops has come into the picture as a means of making the best use of sun, moisture and plant foods. Fertilizing has helped too, not as a substitute for moisture, but to enable the crop to make the best use of whatever moisture was available. Weed control is another way to prevent wastage of moisture and plant foods. Weeds are always a threat, and in some of the drought areas there was little vegetation left except Russian thistle.

Another example which might be followed is the way they have tackled grasshoppers. These have been the only serious insect problem in the drought, and farmers have organized themselves into groups which can charter aircraft to spray insecticides over an entire district if necessary. It has been much more effective than individual efforts.

Whether on cultivated or range land, water storage is a real asset. Large irrigation projects have their uses, but often they are complicated and costly. A lot can be done by the farmer himself if he constructs dugouts with a minimum depth of 12 feet, or makes small dams to hold about 15 feet of water. Tied in with these small reservoirs is irrigation. Even a small irrigated area of about 10 acres will help to build up a forage reserve and can ease pastures when they need to be rested. The cost of irrigation equipment could be as low as \$500 for a small acreage, and it could easily pay for itself.

THE importance of a good grass cover on rangeland has been mentioned already. It is well illustrated in some areas of the U.S., where they have lost not only their tame grasses, but the native blue grama and buffalo grasses, too. The native grasses will be difficult to bring back, because they are poor seeders. The tame

grasses will not be easy either, on account of the fact that seed brought from more than 150 miles away is not reckoned to be adapted to another part of the Great Plains.

Where there had been 80 per cent grass cover before the drought, about 20 per cent grass cover survived in the bad areas. Where there had been much less than 80 per cent, there was nothing left, not even native grass. Because the climate is somewhat cooler in Canada, the safety margin for grass cover would be lower. In this country, it is advisable to stock pastures so that cattle numbers can be adjusted easily to keep 50 per cent grass cover as a minimum. Poor producers should be culled.

Grass left on pasture insulates the soil against the drying effects of sun and wind, and it helps moisture to percolate into the soil instead of running off. But good cover alone is not enough, without a feed reserve for dry years; and water storage and irrigation where possible. Seeding and fertilizing through old sod will produce more and better hay, while rotation of livestock on pasture will help keep an adequate cover.

There is general agreement that more hay and silage are needed in western Canada, as some of the longer winters have proved. Here, as in the U.S., there is a scarcity of forage seeds, and improved practices in the seed-growing areas could help to ensure a steady supply.

Silage has played an important role in combating the U.S. drought, and has shown unexpected keeping qualities. There are instances where it has kept for 10 years, and considerably more, without spoiling. A method they have used is to put the silage in a deep trench, cover it over with three or four feet of earth, and cultivate over the top until it is needed. There could be a freezing problem if it were done here, but it might be worth trying.

Sorghums, both for grain and forage, have been one of the best crops under dry conditions in the Great Plains area, especially in a winter wheat, sorghum and fallow rotation. On occasions, when it was too dry to plant winter wheat, they have sown sorghums in the following spring and got a crop after all. Sorghums have also been successful when planted in listed furrows.

Some sorghums are grown in western Canada in areas where corn can be grown. But corn is a more satisfactory crop here. Sorghums are a warm-season crop and need to be planted in late spring. Frosts are fatal

to them, so the growing season is hardly adequate for them in western Canada. Sorghums are slightly more drought-resistant than corn, but their prussic acid content increases under dry conditions and they should be used with care.

LEARNING the hard way, U.S. farmers have found that the dust bowls of the '30's have become dust bowls again in this drought. These are the marginal and submarginal lands that start the soil drifting. The U.S. Conservation Service reckons that 25 per cent of the present cropland of the Great Plains comes in this category and should be returned to grass permanently, but it is a difficult policy to enforce.

Canada is in better shape to meet the problem. Many of the seriously drifted areas of the '30's—about two million acres—were sown to grass and enclosed as community pastures by federal, provincial and municipal authorities. These are performing a useful service now, and would continue to do so for two or three years in a severe drought. After that it might be a matter of keeping enough cover to prevent them from reverting to dust bowls. But not all marginal lands have been enclosed, and because the years have been favorable, they have been producing crops without too much difficulty. These Prairie acres can be counted in the thousands. In the U.S. there are millions of them.

It may be hard to take these trouble spots seriously in view of the above-average precipitation, which is reflected in the growth of perennial grassland plants in western Canada recently. Native forage yields have doubled or tripled, and there has been a big change toward the more productive, taller grasses at the expense of the less productive ones. In wheat, a University of Saskatchewan survey showed that the yield averaged 23 bushels per acre last year, compared with a long-time average of 15 bushels.

Is this the time to think of drought? Kansas had one of the heaviest rainfalls in the history of the state during 1951. But by the end of that same year the drought had begun, and the next five years were the driest ever recorded in those parts. It can happen just as fast as that.

This is why it is so important to anchor the topsoil. It is why it is essential to store moisture in the soil, in dugouts, behind dams, any place where it is practical. It could make the difference between survival and ruin, and it will never be a waste of time. v

and heavy dust, which quickly becomes a serious fire hazard.

The electric motor at the top also gets dusty, and if not properly cared for, can spark and start a fire where it will spread easily and quickly.

The elevator shaft should be cleaned several times annually, and when the motor and elevator bearings are oiled, the motor should be carefully cleaned of any accumulated dust. This will eliminate the most serious danger of a disastrous fire.

In the case of the fire just reported, the loss was nearly \$200,000, including the structure and stored grain, which was absolutely unnecessary. v

Dairy Farmer Who Looks Ahead

This dairy farmer northeast of Edmonton believes in planned progress and works at it



[Guide photos]
Donat Dumont (left) provides chopped forage for his Holstein herd in the big barnyard feeder. A thermal unit (right) is used to heat pails of water.

NOT all builders are in the construction business. Dairyman Donat Dumont, of Bonnyville, Alberta, qualifies as a builder, because each step he takes in his farm program is another brick in the structure of his operation. Donat isn't content to just go on producing milk, or even to increase his production. He wants to increase farm efficiency, milk quality, and herd quality, so that the family will eventually become "name" breeders in their chosen breed of cattle—Holsteins.

He didn't have much of an operation to start with. Born in New Hampshire, Donat came to his present farm in 1915 (at age 13), when his father homesteaded the place. Three years later, he left home to work on the farm of a Scotch family near Rose-town, Saskatchewan. His employer was a good farmer and Donat learned a lot. He was made foreman by the time he was 21, and was earning \$1,000 a year, and his board. Donat saved his money until he was 26, bought some modern machinery, and came back to the homestead to join his father. That's when the building began.

"Dad hadn't done very much with the place," Donat recalled. "He was brought up in the city, and never really learned to farm."

THE younger Dumont went into dairying almost at once, because he thought it would prove more stable than grain-growing. He preferred a steady income to a "boom and bust" proposition, and has never regretted his decision. Today, Donat farms 1,280 acres in partnership with his two oldest boys, Emile, 20, and Arthur, 19, with a 75- to 80-head herd of fine Holsteins. His milking herd of 32 cows produces about 1,100 pounds of milk per day for the Dairy Pool at Bonnyville.

Donat is gradually building up herd quality, by a rigid system of culling. If a heifer's production doesn't reach 8,000 to 9,000 pounds she is soon disposed of, as are older cows that have shown a consistent drop in daily output. Replacements are bred on the farm, from a bull obtained at the

North Battleford Mental Hospital Farm, but Donat is shopping around for a top quality bull to improve his herd still further.

The Dumonts produce enough hay for themselves, and a bit extra for the market. About 200 tons of this is wild hay, and the remainder a mixture of brome and alfalfa. In addition to this, they grow all their own feed grain, chiefly oats and barley. To beat the wet weather hazard, most likely when the first hay crop is ready, they built a 20 by 160-foot trench silo, with a capacity of 400 tons. Last year, this was filled with sweet clover, which Donat prefers to the grass-alfalfa mixture, because it's less rancid.

Feeding period for the Bonnyville district is often as long as eight months, but Donat looks upon this as an advantage. He likes to have the stock in where they can be looked after. His future plans call for a switch-over to mechanical grazing, and a step-up of his per-acre production. Now that a 30-acre field which was manured last year is producing more forage than a 100-acre piece beside it, he has decided to see what can be done with fertilizer and irrigation water. Then, of course, he'll have to build up that herd of cattle. v



"If, at the end of the six-day free trial you decide not to keep the tractor, well, let me tell you what happened to a fellow who did."

Why Have Elevator Fires?

by L. J. SMITH

A RECENT costly fire of a grain elevator in the grain country recalls the serious danger from this source of these important storage plants.

The writer has had occasion to visit quite a number of grain elevators, in connection with power requirement studies, and has been impressed with the amount of dust present in the elevator shafts. From top to bottom, there is an accumulation of cobwebs

International Plant Breeding

ONE of the big advances in plant breeding for disease resistance in recent years has been the development of international co-operation. In Canada, several large wheat breeding projects are organized within regions, such as the rust area of Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan. Each region with a particular problem has its breeding program, and the wheat breeders, geneticists and cytologists from the Experimental Farms, and the plant pathologists, entomologists, physiologists and others from the Science Service help in both fundamental and applied research.

Their work then extends to the international field, as in the case of rust, where the specialists from North and South American countries meet at three-year intervals to exchange information. From this has developed the World Collection of Wheats and the International Rust Nursery. Various countries have contributed seed samples to a collection of 15,000 varieties maintained at Beltsville, Maryland. Tests are made for resistance to rust, streak mosaic, bunt, sawfly, hessian fly, greenbug, and other diseases and pests. The most promising varieties are then tested in the nursery. ✓

Politics and Farm Policies

Continued from page 10

involved will militate against abrupt decisions and action policies.

THE question of interest charges is politically the touchiest, and administratively the most dangerous, of all the aspects of cash advances. The announcement of an interest charge would inspire speeches from many a prairie platform. Yet the view is firmly held by some in Ottawa that the advance of money without interest would be to invite abuse by a small minority of those aided.

It is also held that while interest-free advances would be a glorious windfall for those farmers, who have, perhaps, tens of thousands of bushels of grain waiting for a market, they would do little for the hard-pressed quarter- or half-section farmer, or the man dried out this summer, who might have little grain on his farm. Nevertheless, the farmer who could not benefit, would be compelled, as a taxpayer, to help bear the cost of providing interest-free money for his more prosperous neighbor.

The economic, political and legal considerations that hedge about the question of interest charges may be one of the knottiest agricultural problems the new government has to face. The probability that the decision will go against the idea of advancing money on grain other than wheat may add to the political problems. It is felt in Ottawa, however, that the heart of the problem is wheat, and that if it is resolved satisfactorily for wheat, other problems will become less pressing.

WHILE these policy questions are being considered in the offices of the Department of Trade and Commerce, over in the Department of Agriculture there will be late hours and careful planning also. The eco-

nomie and political problems of agriculture will be forcing their way along the corridors and into the offices of the minister and his officials.

The Department of Trade and Commerce deals with the wheat surplus — essentially a problem of the prairie farmer. The Department of Agriculture must consider the needs of the agricultural industry as a whole.

The two factors that now make up Canada's agricultural equation are rising costs and surplus grains in the West, and the tightening cost-price squeeze gripping farmers in the rest of Canada.

Farmers on the prairies, understandably preoccupied with their own problems, are almost entirely unaware of the extent to which rising costs have resulted in a deterioration of net farm income in the rest of Canada. Objective people here in Ottawa are almost unanimous in the view that, on the average, Maritime and Ontario farmers are more pressed than those in the West. If they are right, aid to the West without at least fairly comparable encouragement to the farmers in other parts of Canada would be economically unfair and politically suicidal.

This places the new government squarely in the position of helping all, or neglecting all. It also means that the prairie farmer is likely to be disappointed, if he expects too much.

WHAT is the answer? The Ottawa view is that it is likely, among other things, to be tariff protection, and that the Canadian market may be closed to more farm products of other countries.

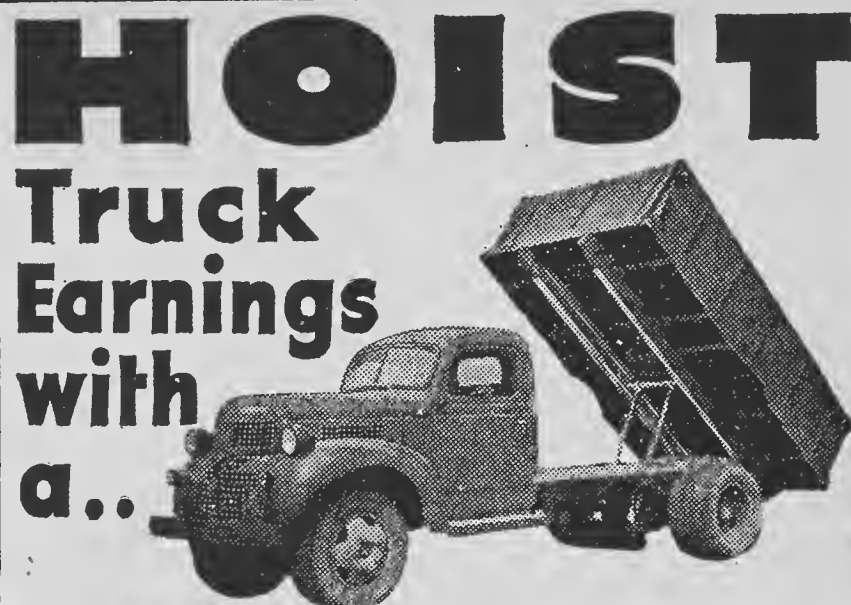
Flexible price supports have also been promised, and can be expected. They may not be high (when considered in U.S. terms of a few years ago) and they will clearly not be rigid. Also, notwithstanding those who attempt to reject the sullen and immutable law of supply and demand, they will not be likely to ignore declining demand, or mounting surpluses.

The government will probably accept the demand of farm organizations, particularly the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, for a price determining formula. In the past, the support price under the Agricultural Prices Supports Act has not been specifically related to a formula — a mathematical relationship to a parity price. This is due to be changed, although it is too early to guess what the price-setting equation will be.

The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration, as we have known it, may cease to exist. The new government is committed to a national soil conservation program, long overdue, and it is assumed here that PFRA will be absorbed into some coast-to-coast soil and water conservation program.

There is a large element of probability that the Prairie Farm Assistance Act will continue in operation, at least for the time being. The likelihood is that a commission will be named to study a national crop insurance program, and will be asked to suggest a method by which PFAA can be absorbed into it.

The other commission that is firmly promised is one to study the spread between producer and consumer prices of various farm products. This



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commission, again, is not likely to be long delayed.

The new government is pledged to "extend and ease" the farm credit situation. Two alternative suggestions are mentioned in Ottawa. One is that the provisions of the Farm Loan Board Act and the Farm Improvements Loans Act should be extended and made more generous. The other is that a new and quite different program for farm credit extension, rather along the lines of the Veterans' Land Act, should be devised.

CERTAINLY none of these far-reaching plans can be quickly converted into operating policies. But one of the early attempts of the new government will certainly be to increase the sales of wheat. In this connection, there has been some discussion of full-time wheat salesmen in some of our best customer countries. Likewise, it has been suggested in policy circles that a price should be guaranteed to the grower and, if necessary, the export price allowed to vary downward.

Many policies are being discussed. Most of them are tailored to deal with the income and surplus crisis in agriculture. But underlying all of them, in the view of many in the capital city, must be the attempt to devise policies that will deal with some of

the fundamental causes of farm distress—rising costs, uneconomic farm sizes, increasing supplies of some farm products in the face of declining demands, excessive specialization at the expense of good soil management, and other causes of reduced real income.

One thing is regarded as clear, namely, that agriculture can never be legislated, or subsidized into a position of secure economic equality, at least without fundamental changes in the national farm plant and national consumer attitudes. In the long run, the land in Canada must produce the food that is wanted by the people of Canada, and the people of Canada must be prepared to pay a reasonable price for it.

Important though they are, such things as cash advances on grain that cannot be marketed are a palliative. Such policies can ease the immediate effects of maladjustments within the industry. But the real challenge that the government is facing lies much deeper—it lies in the causes of farm distress. When these are once corrected, recurring crises within the farm industry may disappear.

This is the end toward which the whole community will be working, especially the ministers and officials within the capital city. ✓

FARM NOTES

Continued from page 6

silage, for winter feeding could easily raise this figure to 75 or 80 per cent. Professor Thomas said that well kept pasture, plus ample forage of good quality, provides the lowest cost of production for both meat and milk. He stressed the important role which fertilizers must play in building and maintaining high-producing grasslands in this country. ✓

Bread Still A Popular Food

IN 1954, commercial bakeries produced more than 80 pounds per capita of bread and bread type rolls, in the United States. The total weight of bread and bread type rolls produced during the year amounted to about 13.7 billion pounds, worth \$3.6 billion at factory value. Consumers in the U.S. also spent \$376 million for nearly a billion pounds of sweet yeast goods; \$232 million for 816 million pounds of pies, and \$60 million for 126 million of hand-made cookies, as well as \$139 million for doughnuts to the number of nearly 400 million dozen. On top of all this, consumers got \$478 million worth of soft cakes, and \$71 million worth of pastries. The wheat flour involved in all of these products amounted to about 9.9 billion pounds, valued at \$624 million, while the fats and oils involved cost \$179 million for 816 million pounds. ✓

in the province, it is reported by the Livestock Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture. Records of the centers show that 335,087 cows, or about 26 per cent of all female cattle in the province, were bred artificially last year.

As a result of a system of service exchange, which has been worked out between the centers, each center can offer services of bulls of all breeds common to the district in which it operates, without being burdened with the expense of maintaining bulls of all breeds.

The records show that a considerable number of farmers are breeding their dairy heifers or dairy cows, from which they do not intend to raise herd replacements, to beef bulls. Out of a total of 99,599 cows bred to bulls of the beef breeds last year, 31,898 were of dairy breeding. ✓

\$100 for A Wheat Kernel

W. J. McIntyre, a local businessman at Swift Current, Sask., has posted an offer of \$100 for one kernel of wheat. The kernel he wants must be selected from this year's crop, and be as perfect as nature can make it—plump, solid and of a weight that if there were enough of the same kind, a bushel of them would weigh 100 pounds. Mr. McIntyre hopes his competition may provide the spur that will eventually result in a wheat variety which is equivalent to Canada's best in baking quality, but which will weigh 100 pounds to the bushel. If you run across such a miracle kernel, send it along to Drawer 500, Swift Current, Sask. ✓

A.I. in Ontario Goes Ahead Rapidly

MORE than 30,000 farmers in Ontario no longer keep bulls, but use the services offered by the 17 licensed artificial insemination centers

Hybrid Corn Ups Profits

Continued from page 11

He prefers not to spray for weeds, because, he says, "It's hard to be sure there won't be some small reaction by the plant against spraying."

THESE are the secrets of corn growing, as this young farmer sees them.

There is no room for waste on a cash crop farm, and winter work is required to justify keeping a hired man the year round. In summer, he has two or three men, full time, plus additional men on a daily, or weekly basis, as needed. In winter he feeds steers, and on that operation the soils expert becomes, with a quick about-face, a livestock specialist.

Last winter, 10 more head went into feedlot than a year ago. It takes more to make the same profit these days, he says. These came off the Winnipeg stockyards in mid-October, as 500-pound calves, and were chosen because Chinnick has found that he can get cheaper gains with small cattle, and can finish them under 1,000 pounds, the popular weight today.

On arrival, the calves are fed for a few days on beet tops hauled to the

feedlot—a small field by the barn. After they have settled down and any sickness has had time to show up, out they got to fall pasture, which is red clover, with wheat as a cover crop. They also pick up corn stalks, and lick up sugar beet tops, for six or seven weeks, until shortly before Christmas.

They then go into the feedlot, an open-sided barn adjoining a barnyard. There they are started on five or six pounds of corn-and-cob meal, plus a little concentrate. Within a month they are up to 10 pounds a day, plus all the hay they'll take; and finally, they get 13 to 14 pounds a day of the corn-and-cob meal, plus concentrate. At 600 pounds, they are put on stilbestrol, and while this was the first year he used it, he noticed a particular thrift in the calves, once they began. By the end of May, the calves should weigh nearly 1,000 pounds, a gain of nearly 500 pounds in 180 days, or over two pounds per day, good in any man's book.

SATISFACTORY results from such a variety of farm enterprises is easier said than done. But Jack explains that one, too. "Farming isn't a way of life any more. It's a business. Overhead on my farm is too high to let me relax. I was raised on a farm. I've been at it all my life. But that

isn't enough to assure success. Now, I spend winter months taking a course in farm business management. With a good set of books I can analyze the farm operation, and base my important decisions on facts. That takes the guesswork out of it."

I asked, "How much time do you spend on the books?"

"Not enough," he laughed. "In the rush of summer, they often slip badly. But I pay everything by cheque, and record everything that comes in. This means that I can bring the books up to date when I get a few free hours again."

Despite the hard work, Mr. and Mrs. Chinnick still admit that, even as a business, farming still offers a pretty good life for themselves, and for the next generation coming along in this family. V

CFA Prepares

Continued from page 7

establishment of the FAO principles of surplus disposal, and the methods proposed by the International Federation of Agricultural Producers at its meeting in May, 1957, for carrying out the intent of these principles, by strengthening the FAO Surplus Disposal Subcommittee at Washington.

Feed Grain Assistance. It was decided to recommend to the government that the legislation dealing with freight subsidies on feed grains be made permanent.

Dairy Products. In order to stimulate production, prevent speculation in butter and to stabilize prices during the winter months, a request will be made to the government to raise the support price on butter immediately, from 58 to 62 cents per pound, for the remainder of the dairy year, and to handle any imports of butter in the event imports become necessary. The government will also be asked to place milk powders immediately under the Export-Import Permits Act of Canada, and to pass legislation under the Trade Marks Act, which would make illegal the use of natural color of butter in any food product used as a substitute for butter.

Farm Credit. Agreement was reached to present the CFA policy on farm credit to the government. In doing so the policy would be broadened to include a section on supervised loans. The new section is designed to assist young farmers in getting started, and marginally established farmers to better their position. The section calls for the implementation of a system of loans, on a supervised basis of three dollars for every

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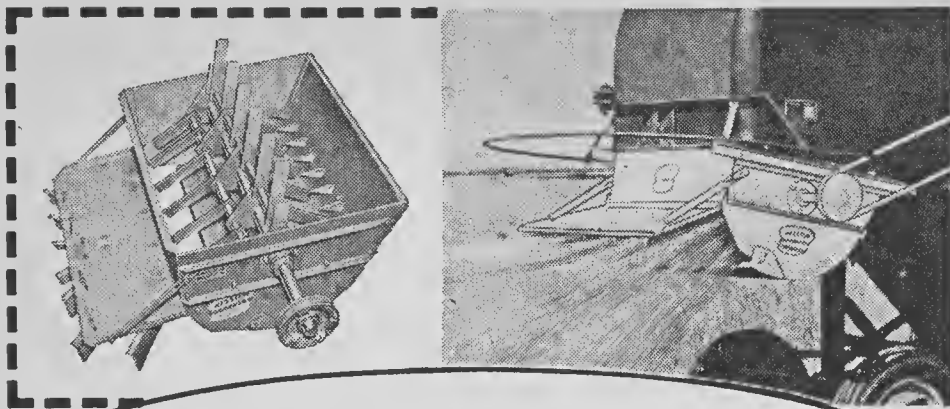
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dollar of equity supplied by the borrower, the maximum loan to be \$20,000, repayable in 40 years, at a lower rate of interest than regular commercial loans.

Crop Insurance. The Board accepted in principle the desirability of establishing some form of crop insurance program in Canada, and agreed to request the Federal Government, in co-operation with the provincial governments, to fully investigate the feasibility of such a program, and ways and means of bringing it into existence at the earliest possible date.

Soil Conservation. The Board agreed to press for the enactment of a Federal Soil Conservation Act, which would be designed to provide for an adequate program in this field. It was recognized that because of the constitutional position with respect to natural resources, detailed regulations and agreements under the Act would need to be worked out in co-operation with the provincial governments.

Price Spreads. The spread between the price the farmer receives for his produce, and what the consumer pays at the store for food, has been widening. The Board agreed to recommend to the government that it proceed to have this matter fully investigated by whatever means it thought appropriate.

Radio and TV. The CFA Board approved the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Broadcasting in general, and re-emphasized its concern for a continuation, with adequate financial support from public funds, of Canada's present single system of broadcasting. It agreed to bring its views on this subject to the attention of the government.

Farm Forum. The CFA Board reaffirmed its belief in National Farm Radio Forum as an educational program of great worth to farm people, and increased its financial contribution to the organization.

Replaces Orchard Ladders

Ingenious power device makes manhandling of ladders unnecessary in fruit orchards



This is the Girette. Mrs. Jack Venables up, on the Venables place at Oliver.

or hole through the foliage for ladder access. Completely operated from the "basket" at the end of the boom, the machine can be driven around the tree, or around the orchard, without the worker having to move from position. When picking boxes (there is a basket attachment for these) are full, the boom swings load and operator gently to the ground like an Indian mahout descending from the back of his favorite elephant.

Girette controls consist of a hand throttle for speed regulation, an epicyclic transmission (à la Model T) that requires no gear shifting, and foot pedals for steering, which operate both base and boom. Power is supplied by a nine-horsepower, air-cooled engine that also operates a hydraulic pump that lifts and swings the boom, and works a fork-lift attachment. Many more attachments are available at extra cost, such as power pruning tools, automatic box racks, kayak covers and heaters for cold weather pruning, lights for night work—even a radio, if you prefer to sing as you swing.

A DEVELOPMENT of a South Okanagan machinery firm has made the ladder obsolete as an aid to pruning, thinning, and picking in fruit orchards. The machine, called a Girette (baby giraffe), is a self-propelled, highly maneuverable, aerial platform, equivalent in height to a 14-foot ladder, with the added advantage that you don't have to climb up or down, or move it about. Since they first appeared this season, Girettes have sold faster than they can be produced—in fact, the fame of western Canada's "baby giraffe" has spread so rapidly that a United States firm has been authorized to make them to keep pace with heavy demands from orchardists in Florida and other fruit-growing states.

The Girette is a tricycle-wheeled vehicle with a very low wheelbase, and a clean, rounded elevating boom that can reach into a tree with practically no damage to the branches. No longer is it necessary to prune a well,

Religion is a great force—the only real motive force in the world; but what you fellows don't understand is that you must get at a man through his own religion and not through yours. — George Bernard Shaw.

Safe Tractor Operation

Continued from page 13

- structions and ditches. Reduce speed when turning and driving on rough ground. Use extra care on hillsides.
3. Engage clutch gently, especially when pulling uphill, out of ditches or heavy loads.
4. Always hitch to tractor drawbar, never to the axle or seat bracket.
5. To reduce speed or stop, always brake wheels equally. (Use brake connecting latch if provided.)
6. Always keep power line shield in place and stop power take-off before dismounting from tractor.
7. Never allow extra riders on tractor.
8. Be careful when refilling the radiator on an over-heated engine or with a pressure cooling system.
9. Avoid refueling or other service work while the tractor is running or extremely hot.
10. Do not operate a tractor in a closed building where exhaust will contact inflammable material.
11. Stay on the seat while the tractor is in motion, never dismount until it stops.
12. Keep the tractor in gear going down steep hills or grades.
13. Always stop tractor before removing or replacing a belt.
14. Do not let children operate a tractor. Remember, to operate an automobile a person must be 16 years of age.
15. Keep tractor platform, pedals, foot rests, drawbars, etc., free of dirt, grease, chains, trash or other hazards.
16. Keep tractor in good mechanical condition. Check brakes, clutch, lights, fuel line and control mechanism frequently.
17. Be careful when coupling implements to the tractor. Special hitches, or a hook to handle drawbar, make hitching easier and safer.
18. Avoid wearing loose, sloppy clothing while operating a tractor.
19. Observe standard traffic signals when operating a tractor on public highways.
20. See that everyone is in the clear before starting a tractor.
21. Use lights for night operation. Do not operate in the dark. If operating on public roads have red lights to the rear.
22. Extend the width of wheel treads whenever possible.

(Mr. Peck is Agricultural Extension Engineer, Sask. Department of Agriculture, Regina.—ed.)

The man who idly sits and thinks
May sow a nobler crop than corn,
For thoughts are seeds of future
deeds,
And when God thought—the world
was born!
—Harry Romaine.



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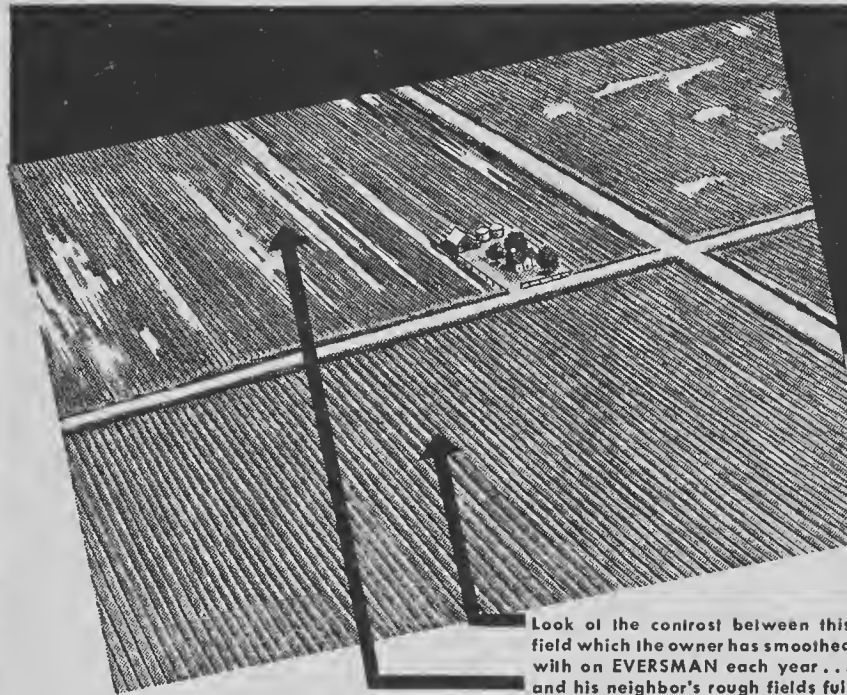
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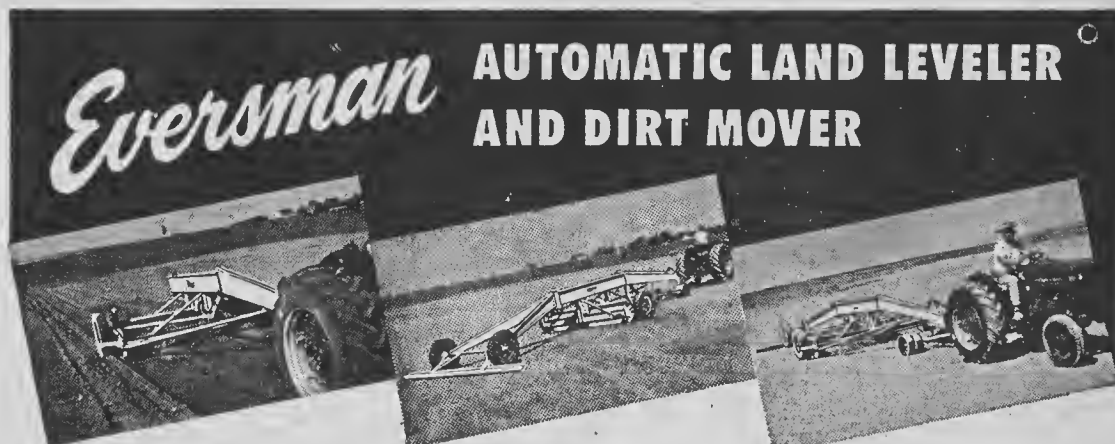
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Excessive moisture in most areas this year has played havoc with farm fields and points up the urgent need for a MOISTURE MANAGEMENT program utilizing the Eversman Land Leveler and Dirt Mover. With the Eversman it is easy and economical to repair washed out areas, move dirt from the high places into the low water pockets, establish a grade over the entire surface so water spreads evenly over the field and slowly drains into adjacent drainage ditches. The Eversman is also an ideal machine for building farm-over drainage ditches or grass water ways. After the dirt moving operation is completed the same machine smooths and levels field surfaces, eliminating dead furrows and back furrows and the high spots and depressions, making an ideal seed bed that greatly increases crop yields through uniform planting and uniform stands. The Eversman is a must for efficient irrigation. The smooth tabletop surfaces make it possible to put water on fields uniformly with less water and with great savings in labor.

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VOL. LXXVI WINNIPEG, AUGUST, 1957 No. 8

Farm Radio Forum

LACK of participation in National Farm Radio Forum has caused considerable concern in organized agriculture throughout Canada, and particularly in the Prairie Provinces, in recent years. It was natural, therefore, for the 17th Annual Farm Forum Conference to give considerable attention to a special Saskatchewan report based on an analysis of 9,000 questionnaires completed by Forum members, organizers and leaders in that province.

The report dealt with the wide range of obstacles to Farm Forum participation, including curling and other community activities, problems of minding children, weather conditions and the attractions of television. It pointed out that these obstacles, though real, must be accepted as normal for any serious educational program, and that effective local organization is essential if such obstacles are to be overcome. The report also said that there is no alternative to Farm Forum; that there is little conflict of purpose between Farm Forum and other community organizations; and, that those who do participate in the discussion groups find it a valuable and satisfying experience.

Conference delegates reported that those charged with the responsibility of promoting Farm Forum, including farm leaders, have not yet appreciated its full value. It is now proposed that farm and co-operative organizations in each province become active sponsors of the program, to ensure that it has proper support, leadership and financial resources to operate effectively.

Farm Forum, essentially an educational program, is badly needed, because of the complexities of agriculture and the age in which we live. Properly organized, it can do much to further develop rural citizenship in Canada. The broadcasts can be interesting and useful in themselves, but it is the discussion group method that really gives the program its unique character and value.

Farm leaders have recognized that educational programs cannot be self-supporting; nor can they be carried on successfully without careful planning and hard work. It is to be hoped that they will do everything possible to revitalize Farm Forums in the provinces. What is even more important is for farm people everywhere to realize the splendid opportunity which exists through Farm Forum to become better informed on a wide variety of subjects of vital concern to them, and for more of them to take advantage of that opportunity, even at the expense of making some personal sacrifices. V

Adjustment to Change

AGRICULTURAL economists and others have been stating that the problem of the low farm income family is primarily one of underemployment and an uneconomic size of unit, rather than one of farm prices. For their efforts they have been severely criticized by farmers and some farm leaders, and accused of being unsympathetic to the problems of the farmer.

This line of criticism is unjustified and, for the most part, unfair. What our economists have been saying is that even a guaranteed fair price for all the commodities which many farms in Canada can produce under most favorable circumstances, would not provide sufficient annual income to give the operators of those farms a standard of living relatively equal to that enjoyed by the average worker in other industries. This is true because the factors of production (land, labor and capital) are not available on these farms in the right combination to establish an efficient basis of operation under present conditions.

What has been happening, of course, is that tremendous changes have been taking place in the non-farm segments of the Canadian economy, mainly by way of a rapid industrial build-up. This has imposed upon agriculture a need to adjust to the changes with corresponding rapidity. While considerable adjustment in farming has been taking place, it has not proceeded rapidly enough to bring all of agriculture into line with other industries.

Certainly no one can argue that if agriculture is organized on an efficient basis, and is producing those commodities for which there is an effective demand, farmers are not entitled to a fair return for their labor. However, it seems reasonable to expect that whatever action programs are taken to assist agriculture, should be aimed toward the promotion of farm units that will provide full employment opportunities for the family on an efficient production basis, if they are to have any lasting value. Otherwise, it seems highly unlikely that a relatively large part of Canadian Agriculture can survive satisfactorily without permanent and substantial subsidization from the Federal treasury. V

Five Factors

AS we see it, there are five principal factors involved in the problem of achieving what is often called equality for agriculture. There are other factors involved also, because agriculture is a very complex industry, but all of the others can be grouped around one or other of the five. These are, in order of precedence: Awareness (some call it education); farm management; farm credit; organization; and price support. Co-operation, conservation, marketing, research and extension all fit in around these five.

Agriculture is a huge, sprawling industry consisting, in Canada, of some 575,000 relatively small businesses. Its very nature suggests the generally lower level of education that is characteristic of the industry; and likewise a measure of isolation, which leads to the oft-heard comment, "What I don't know doesn't hurt me." A generally higher level of education is, in fact, a prerequisite to higher general standards of living for farm families.

Farm management today means the management of a business. Business, broadly speaking, is the economic aspect of living; and management is the factor that determines how much of gross income is left as net income at the end of the year.

Agriculture is chronically in need of credit—short-term, intermediate, and long-term. Many inefficient farms are efficiently managed, but lack adequate capital resources; nevertheless, the real need for additional credit is only apparent after efficient management has done its work.

No industry as widely scattered and as diverse as agriculture can progress unless it is well organized, locally, provincially and nationally. The growth of co-operation, the development of improved marketing practices, the consideration of common production problems and the many occasions for approaches to governments—all of these call for effective organization, without which agriculture would remain permanently in the doldrums.

Finally, to the extent that government price supports are a stabilizing element needed in these days of marked changes and many hazards, only organizations of well-informed members representing all branches of the industry can effectively present well-thought-out, well-reasoned and justifiable claims for assistance under the Agricultural Prices Support Act, or whatever legislation may ultimately succeed it. Price supports are, at best, something like the inconspicuous automatic regulators found on many machines. They are not actually a part of the machine, but without them the machines would not operate as smoothly. V

The Ottawa Farm Conference

NOW that a new government is in power in Ottawa, it should not be too soon to comment on the annual Federal-Provincial Agricultural Conference, which is held during the first week in December.

That the conferences of recent years—indeed, most of the post-war years—have not achieved very much, will be admitted, we think, by those who have attended fairly regularly. The majority probably would agree also that the purpose of the conference has not been sufficiently clear-cut. True, the former minister of agriculture, Mr. Gardiner, did say that its purpose was to secure an exchange of ideas between the provinces and the Federal Government. Some, if not most, of the provincial ministers of agriculture appear to attend out of courtesy to the Federal Government, rather than because they want to. Some seldom appear at all, and there can be little doubt that the conference could more easily become a useful affair yielding practical results, if all of them stayed at home.

There may be a place in Canada for more than one kind of federal-provincial agricultural conference. Obviously, ministers are the only persons fully qualified to deal with the questions of policy involving legislation, or understandings, or agreements. If this is the kind of conference that should be held on a regularized basis, it can be arranged without all of the fanfare associated with the present one. If the purpose of the Federal-Provincial Agricultural Conference is to bring out and summarize all of the information with respect to crops, livestock, markets and other matters involved in the outlook for the coming year, it seems to us that an entirely different conference is required. If the conference is designed to aid the 575,000 Canadian farmers who need the best outlook information obtainable, if they are to plan their operations for the coming year on a sound basis, the ministers should stay at home and yield place to their deputies and specialists, including a substantial group of agricultural economists. When the ministers are present they dominate the conference, even when silent.

What we should very much like to see would be an independent group of technically qualified people meeting once a year in Ottawa, to do the very best they can for the farmers of Canada by way of helpful information bearing on the economic outlook for all branches of agriculture, in all provinces. This would involve not only the weeks of hard work put into the preparation of the reports now given regularly by committees at Ottawa, but a hard working conference devoted to discussion rather than speeches. If the new government really wants to do something for agriculture, here is one avenue of approach. V

Responsibilities of Office

AMONG the problems which, before the June 10 election, the Progressive-Conservative party sought the privilege of solving, were those associated with Agriculture. Mr. Diefenbaker and his colleagues now carry that obligation. One of the cardinal principles underlying the democratic form of government is that any group seeking to form a government must first ask the electorate for the privilege of solving the problems of the people. If elected, the government so authorized is committed. If it can register no more than failure in the minds of the people, it can be turned out of office with little compunction, by the same people who gave it the opportunity to govern.

Mr. Diefenbaker's government is not very happily situated, by reason of its lack of a clear majority in parliament. Nevertheless, having sought the opportunity, they must carry on under the limitations imposed by the electorate; and for our part, we have no doubt that they will do the best they can. It is equally certain, however, that this best, whatever it may be, will not equal the hopes of many of those who turned on the Liberal government in the general election. This, no doubt, will be especially true of many of the wheat producers in western Canada, who, in the face of declining wheat prices and rising carryover, still look to the government for improved incomes.

Elsewhere in this issue, the wheat problem facing the Federal government is analyzed in concrete terms. None of the possible courses of action is pleasant. However, the new government has asked for the opportunity to make the choice—and they have it. V